The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

3. The courts have decided that refusing to take Newspapers or Periodicals from the Postoffice, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud.

☞ All remittances must be made in Money Orders, Bank Checks, or Drafts, if possible. When neither of these can be procured, send the money in a Registered Letter. The present Registration system is virtually an Absolute Protection Against Losses by mail, and all Post Masters are obliged to Register Letters whenever requested to do so.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to

C. D. BRIGHAM, Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. IX.—NO. 14. WEEKLY EDITION. FEBRUARY 10, 1872.

The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by the Commercial Printing Company, corner Fifth Avenue and Smithfield Street, opposite Postoffice.

C. D. BRIGHAM, Editor.

M. F. EGAN, Business Manager.

☞ TERMS OF THE DAILY. Single copy, 5 cents. Delivered by carriers (per week,) 25 cents; subscribers by mail (per year), $10 00.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Social Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the Family.

☞ TERMS OF THE WEEKLY. Per Year (52 issues), $2 00; in Clubs of Twenty, $1 50; one copy gratis to the getter-up of the Club.

The money must always accompany the order, and in no instance can these terms be deviated from.

☞ Postmasters are requested to act as Agents.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscription, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

HARRISBURG.

Special to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 1, 1872.

SENATE.

Bills Reported.

The bill relative to judicial districts and increasing the Supreme Judges to seven was reported with amendments. The bill providing offices for county School Superintendents was reported negatively. The bill authorizing Mount Washington borough to borrow money was reported negatively, because the courts have power. The bill incorporating the Monongahela Savings and Deposit Bank, the Farmers and Mechanics' Bank of East Birmingham, and the Shoe and Leather Bank of Pittsburgh, were reported with amendments imposing the personal liability clause, restricting them in the amount they may borrow, and limiting them in holding real estate.

Bills Introduced.

By Mr. Anderson, Securing married women their separate earnings; supplement for the Pennsylvania Mining and Manufacturing Company.

By Mr. Humphreys, Authorizing the Pittsburgh and Birmingham Railroad to mortgage the road to extend its buildings; supplement to the act for grading Wylie avenue, Pittsburgh.

By Mr. Dill, Relative to executors and administrators, which extends the act of 1834 to lunatics and habitual drunkards.

By Mr. Weakly, Supplement to the act allowing parties in interest to testify, extending the same to executors and administrators.

Mr. Dill introduced a resolution directing the Committee on Retrenchment and Reform to report by Thursday next on the bills for refitting the halls of the House and Senate. Adopted.

Mr. Billingfelt, a resolution instructing the Judiciary General Committee to inquire and report whether the charges against the Eclectic Medical College and Philadelphia University of Medicine are true, they will work a forfeiture of their charter, or whether it is a matter for the courts. Adopted.

Bills Acted Upon.

On motion of Mr. Graham, the bill relative to unclaimed deposits was postponed.

The Butler Oil and Pipe Company bill passed a third reading. The bill authorizing the State Superintendent to appoint three trustees on behalf of the State on the State normal school board was supported by Messrs. Anderson and Wilson, and passed.

The Supreme Court Supplement.

Mr. White called up the supplement increasing the Supreme Court Judges to seven, and authorizing their election by cumulative voting.

Mr. Billingfelt moved an amendment reducing the number to six.

Mr. Wallace moved the postponment of the bill and its printing. Carried.

Mr. White called up the bill establishing a State Board of two Commissioners, for the examination and licensing of druggists, to be appointed by the Governor, license fee thirty dollars. The bill was treated with sneers by Messrs. Mann, Mumma, Strang and Billingfelt, and Mr. Anderson joco sly moved an amendment providing for one Allopathic and one Homœopathic member of the Board. The bill was further amended by Mr. Strang providing for such Board in each county.

Mr. Gray Sworn In.

Pending the discussion relative to the election in the Fourth District, Philadelphia, were announced as 12,312 for Gray and 11,421 for McClure, and Mr. Gray was immediately sworn in by order of the Speaker.

The druggists' bill was then indefinitely postponed.

Mr. Gray received the congratulations of the Republican Senators.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Messrs. Taylor, of Allegheny, and Meek, of Center, were appointed additional members of the Rothermel Picture Committee.

Public Bills Passed.

The following House public bills were passed: Authorizing assignors of insurance policies to sue in their own names; incorporating the Monongahela Savings and Deposit Bank, the Farmers and Mechanics' Bank of East Birmingham, and the Shoe and Leather Bank of Pittsburgh, were reported with amendments imposing the personal liability clause, restricting them in the amount they may borrow, and limiting them in holding real estate.

Bills Introduced.

By Mr. Anderson, Securing married women their separate earnings; supplement for the Pennsylvania Mining and Manufacturing Company.

By Mr. Humphreys, Authorizing the Pittsburgh and Birmingham Railroad to mortgage the road to extend its buildings; supplement to the act for grading Wylie avenue, Pittsburgh.

By Mr. Dill, Relative to executors and administrators, which extends the act of 1834 to lunatics and habitual drunkards.

By Mr. Weakly, Supplement to the act allowing parties in interest to testify, extending the same to executors and administrators.

Mr. Dill introduced a resolution directing the Committee on Retrenchment and Reform to report by Thursday next on the bills for refitting the halls of the House and Senate. Adopted.

Mr. Billingfelt, a resolution instructing the Judiciary General Committee to inquire and report whether the charges against the Eclectic Medical College and Philadelphia University of Medicine are true, they will work a forfeiture of their charter, or whether it is a matter for the courts. Adopted.

Bills Acted Upon.

On motion of Mr. Graham, the bill relative to unclaimed deposits was postponed.

The Butler Oil and Pipe Company bill passed a third reading. The bill authorizing the State Superintendent to appoint three trustees on behalf of the State on the State normal school board was supported by Messrs. Anderson and Wilson, and passed.

The Supreme Court Supplement.

Mr. White called up the supplement increasing the Supreme Court Judges to seven, and authorizing their election by cumulative voting.

Mr. Billingfelt moved an amendment reducing the number to six.

Mr. Wallace moved the postponment of the bill and its printing. Carried.

Mr. White called up the bill establishing a State Board of two Commissioners, for the examination and licensing of druggists, to be appointed by the Governor, license fee thirty dollars. The bill was treated with sneers by Messrs. Mann, Mumma, Strang and Billingfelt, and Mr. Anderson jocosely

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, February 10, 1872.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1872.

From the experience which has been had on the Denver and Rio Grande Narrow Gauge Railroad, more than seventy-five miles of which has been constructed, the statement is made that this description of railroad fully answers the expectations of those who have maintained for it the claim of superiority over roads of the ordinary gauge. Practical men from all parts of the country have made trips to Colorado to examine this road, returning satisfied; and as the result of the experience, a narrow gauge fever prevails throughout all this portion of the country.

THERE is a bill in the United States Senate for the retirement of Judges of the Supreme Court, whereby those incapacitated for the performance of laborious duties can withdraw, their salaries continuing. Should it become a law, and it is believed it will, it is not improbable that Chief Justice CHASE and Justice NELSON will avail themselves of its provisions. In view of such a probability the question of filling the vacancies is one of no little interest. It is known that Senators COCKLING and HOWE have aspirations, but the appointment of either would tax any President's hold on the country. We prefer to believe that ex-Attorney General HOAR would, with GRANT, stand the better chance for one of the seats, and that in no instance would the position be conferred as the reward of political services.

IT IS by no means certain that the vaulting ambition in which for several years past not a few of the Trades' Unions have indulged, has not at last overleaped itself. An important meeting of employers is shortly to be held in New York city to take measures to resist the further aggressions of the Trades' Unionists, some of whom, as in the case of the coopers a couple of weeks ago, have even grown so bold as to assume to dictate the manner in which the business of their employers shall be conducted. We observe that the subject is also engaging careful attention in England. Two or three weeks since an immense conference of the employers of operative engineers, shipbuilders, machinists and cognate trades was held in London, upwards of three hundred great firms, employing over a hundred thousand men, located in all parts of England and Scotland, being represented, at which it was unanimously resolved to constitute themselves into a defensive association to resist further encroachments on the part of their operatives. The immediate reason of the assembling of the Convention was the demand of the workingmen for the reduction of hours from nine to eight and a-half, and the intimation lately given by Mr. SCOTT RUSSELL that this demand was only a prelude to another peremptory request for a still further reduction to eight hours, without any reduction in the rate of pay. On the continent of Europe the hours of labor per week are sixty-five, against fifty-four in England, and it was argued that concession and conciliation in this direction had gone to the utmost extent to which it was possible to carry it without ruinous loss to the employers. The association organized at the meeting is strictly defensive in its purposes, but its members are said to be resolute in their determination to carry out the purposes for which it was established.

WHILE the announcement of the London *Times* that in a certain contingency England should withdraw from the case at Geneva, accompanied, as it has been, by an apparently concerted attempt on the part of the British press to provoke Parliament into an expression of sentiment obnoxious to the United States, has not been calculated to put the people of this country in the most amicable of moods, it is gratifying to know that the outburst of feverish bluster to which it has been subject has quite failed of its purpose, and that Uncle Sam does not propose to be driven from his equanimity by any mere torrent of opprobrious words. The case of the United States being so overwhelming against England, it is perhaps natural that she should fear the tribunal may favorably entertain the question of claims for indirect damages, and—particularly since "a guilty conscience needs no accuser"—one can readily conceive how the possession of this knowledge will work on the ground taken by her statesmen during the greater part of the controversy, should cause a good deal of nervous fluttering. Briefly stated, the complaint of the London journals is, that while our government has given an implied promise not to claim compensation for indirect damages, yet in spite of such promise the case, as made up and presented on our part, does urge such indirect indemnification. But here is what the treaty itself says upon the matter:

> "In order to remove and adjust all complaints and claims on the part of the United States, and to provide for the speedy settlement of such claims which are not admitted by Her Britannic Majesty's Government, the high contracting parties agree that all the said claims, growing out of acts committed by the aforesaid vessels, and generally known as the 'Alabama claims,' shall be referred to a Tribunal of Arbitration, to be composed of five arbitrators. * * * who shall proceed impartially and carefully to examine, and decide all questions that shall be laid before them on the part of the respective Governments."

It will be perceived, therefore, that no settlement of the case has been had. The original proposition of the United States was, that if the High Commission would "settle" it, by the payment of a certain gross sum on the part of Great Britain, in satisfaction of all claims, with interest, our claim of compensation for indirect injuries should be abandoned. This offer, however, the British Commissioners refused to accept, and adopted instead a treaty which, as will be seen, merely provides for the future settlement of the case. The whole matter therefore rests with the Geneva tribunal, which may either rule out the claims for indirect losses at the very outset, or otherwise, at its discretion. Both parties have accepted the jurisdiction of the tribunal in the case, and by their decision must be bound. The threat of the *Times* that England "will not acquiesce in a construction of the treaty which it is determined not to acknowledge if approved against it," is mere nonsense, and is chiefly noticeable as indicating that in this matter England begins to see herself as others see her, and is not a bit pleased with the picture.

ENGLAND AND THE TREATY.

At last we have the authentic text of Queen VICTORIA's speech to the British Parliament respecting the Treaty of Washington, about which there has recently been so much flurry and excitement in Great Britain, and it appears that the English government has actually addressed a friendly communication to the United States, protesting against the incorporation of indirect or constructive damages among the claims for indemnification submitted by this country. "These," the Queen says, "are understood on my part not to be within the province of the arbitrators." On what grounds this understanding could have been arrived at it is difficult to discover. In the protocols of conference it was distinctly stated by the Commissioners that while, "in the hope of an amicable settlement, no estimate was made of the indirect losses," yet this was "without prejudice, however, to the right of indemnification on their account, in the event of no such settlement being made." No "such settlement" was made, the British Commissioners declining the proposition of the Government of the United States that England should lay a certain gross sum in liquidation of all demands, in consequence of which the whole matter was referred to the Geneva tribunal, established for the purpose, among other things, of providing for the "speedy settlement of such claims which are *not admitted* by the" British Government. This Board of Arbitration is therefore the Court of last resort in the matter, before which the respective litigants are to present their several cases, and by whose decision each party to the suit is firmly and finally bound. Great Britain has of course the right to present a counter case, and to exonerate herself from responsibility for constructive damages, if she can; but it is preposterous to insist that our Government shall lower its claims or omit any point from its case, before the matter is brought to trial. While the probability of an award for indirect damages is somewhat doubtful, this uncertainty has nothing whatever to do with the question of the presentation of the claims themselves. The American people are not a nation of SHYLOCKS, and would in all likelihood forego, out of magnanimity, a considerable portion of England's forfeiture, but neither are they to be frightened into receding from the stipulated conditions of the bond in which themselves and Great Britain are jointly bound. The situation, however, furnishes no real grounds for alarm. The present position of the government has been maintained throughout the whole *Alabama* controversy, and while we cannot in honor ask England to take part in forming a new treaty if she should repudiate the present one, yet neither would war necessarily ensue. That grave embarrassments between the two countries would arise is quite likely, and that the settlement of the fishery question and the San Juan boundary would be postponed, is certain. But England's bad faith would inevi- -ta- -bly redound to her injury and our -stage. Thrice is he armed that hath and we can therefore afford to -v- and await with perfect -developments may

TAXES ON CORPORATIONS.

A few days since we referred to this subject to show that there was not any existing necessity for such taxation as is now imposed by law on corporations in this State; that it is not in pursuance of a wise policy; and that its effect is prejudicial to the best interests of the Commonwealth.

We now propose to consider the question:—why should corporations be taxed more than individuals?

We have shown, we think, that the popular cry of "monopoly" does not justly lie against our mining, manufacturing and other corporations; nor can such corporations, formed under general laws, be monopolies.

The theory upon which extra and exceptional taxes have been heretofore levied upon corporations, is that the Legislature has conferred upon them extraordinary privileges, for which they should pay largess. While in the early history of corporate grants, when they were all created by special charters, there may have been some foundation for this theory, it is very different now, particularly with the corporations formed under the general law of 1863, and its supplements.

What "privileges" are now granted to corporations under that act? None that do not pertain to a natural person, or partnership of such persons, except that stockholders are responsible only for the amount of their subscription to the stock, and cannot be pursued for the corporate liabilities.

But the safeguards provided by the law are such that every creditor can and should know, before he becomes such, just what assets the company has, and what its liabilities are; and if such information is not on file, as required by the law, the responsibility is upon the officers.

A party selling property or loaning money to an individual or to a firm, frequently or generally relies upon the reputed wealth or ability of his debtor to pay; but in the case of these corporations, he has the means of knowing exactly in what his security consists. We risk little in saying, that in the long run, the security is greatest for the debts of the corporation, because it is definite. What, then, is the privilege for which a tax equal to eight per cent. of the profits of the corporation is exacted? Simply the privilege of existence;—the right to be!

The State grants its protection to its small capitalists upon the same condition that the Algerines allowed the ships of other nations to navigate the Mediterranean—that they pay tribute; while the large capitalist, who needs not the so-called privileges of the corporation, goes scot free. Look at the collieries, the iron works, the oil farms, and the varied and multiform establishments of industry existing as corporations. See the towns settled of which they are the *nuclei*; the wealth developed of which they laid the foundation; the thousands of working men, and tens of thousands of population, themselves sustained, and in turn by their taxes sustaining the Commonwealth; each a vast wheel, of which the hub is a corporation. We can see no reason why such persons, because created artificially by the State, should pay any tax not levied upon other or natural persons, and an enlightened public sentiment will so decide.

What such is the tendency of progress, is shown by the fact that the States recently adopting new constitutions, notably that of Illinois, are adopting as a feature of their fundamental law, that taxes on corporate property shall be levied as on other property, and not otherwise.

It is the true spirit of progress to place no undue burden upon that which tends in so eminent a decree to the development of the wealth, and to the material prosperity of the State, upon which all ability to sustain taxation depends.

If, then, the present taxes are improvidently and excessively levied, how, and in what respect, should they be reduced? *We think the so styled tax on capital stock should be abolished.*

What is capital stock? It is not property; it is merely the convenient representation of the interest which each stockholder has in the property of the corporation. To say that A, B or C owns so much stock, is simply to say that he has a common interest with others in a certain proportion of the Company's property, transferable in a convenient manner. To tax such representative of property as property itself, is not, we think, defensible in principle. The property pays, in other forms, the same taxes as other or similar property of individuals. If the corporation makes no profits, why should it be further taxed, merely to exist?

Yet, even then it is called upon to pay three mills on each dollar of the appraised value of the stock, which value is based mainly upon the prospective profits of the company. And if it makes, as net profits, a sum equal to fifty per cent. of the capital, and does not divide them, it still pays the tax on capital stock as if no profits were made.

But if it makes a dividend—then, *presto!* the tax on capital stock is still so called, but it happens to equal exactly five per cent. of the dividend, and is, to all intents and purposes, a tax on dividends. To require a corporation that has no profits to pay extra taxes, is a statesmanship? It is perhaps scriptural, in that it "Taketh from him that hath not, even that which he hath." The tax on capital stock is clearly unjust, and lacking in the principles of equity.

If any tax must be imposed on corporations, (and we protest that they should pay the same taxes as individuals, and no more,) let it be levied upon those only who have some profit in being corporations—foster children of the State, which has hitherto been an unnatural mother,—let it be a tax on profits only and as such, and in our opinion it should not exceed two per cent. This rate of tax would probably yield one-fourth of the sum now realized from corporation taxes, or some two hundred and fifty thousand dollars per annum.

That the proposed reduction in the revenues of the Commonwealth, consequent upon the abolition of the tax on capital stock, and the reduction of the tax on profits, will not endanger the finances of the State, we will endeavor to show at a future day.

THE *McCLURE-GRAY* CONTEST.

Progress of the Fight—Suits and Counter Suits—Alleged Overwhelming Evidences of Fraud—Citizens' Mass Meeting To-Night—Committee of Public Safety.

In the matter of the McClure-Gray contest it has already been stated that Mr. William Rittenhouse, Assistant Commissioner of Highways, was last Saturday held for trial at Court in the sum of thousand dollars for inciting a rounder, one Patrick Dougherty, to impersonate another man in voting for Gray on the day of the election. In addition to this action Col. McClure has himself instituted a civil suit for damages against Mayor Stokley, Deputy Sheriff Hong and Mayor's clerk McCullough, charging them with conspiring to cheat and defraud him out of his election and seat in the State Senate. This step of Col. McClure's has led to counter movements, Messrs. Hong and McCullough having in turn instituted suits against Col. McClure respectively for libel and slander. Commenting on the increasing excitement respecting the contest, and particularly the latest phase of it, the Philadelphia papers demand that the case shall be brought to trial at the earliest day possible, that if the charges of Col. McClure are disproved he may be punished as he deserves, and that if substantiated the "two men who are defrauding the penitentiary every day they are at large," may be dealt with according to the measure of their crime. It is claimed by the McClure party that the evidence against the rounders and repeaters accumulates every day, the following instances being culled at random therefrom.

In one division of the Nineteenth ward forty respectable citizens over and above the returns for McClure, have made affidavit that they voted for him. In a division in the Twentieth ward, during a certain hour, the vote for McClure was counted at three. Colonel McClure has the affidavits of eight men who voted for him in that body, in that hour, two clergymen being among them. He was also informed of over three hundred men who voted in the Nineteenth ward, and who do not live there. Also, in the same ward, information of three hundred names voted on whose *bona fide* owners did not vote at all. In a division of the same ward a certain name was voted upon by a repeater, and then by the genuine man, both for Gray. In the Twenty-second ward one division in a certain hour returned six votes for McClure. That gentleman has in his possession affidavits of fourteen citizens who voted for him in that hour. In the Nineteenth ward the vote in one division was counted seven for McClure for a certain hour. The window man challenged the count. He was beaten and driven away. Fourteen men have since made affidavit that they voted in that same hour. In another division of the Nineteenth ward double the number of votes for McClure, that were counted, have since been affirmed by affidavits. In one precinct in the district a police officer voted six times for Gray.

A public mass meeting of the citizens of Philadelphia has been called for to-night, for the purpose of expressing the sentiment of the community against the crimes alleged to have been committed at the polls, and to take such other action as may seem necessary, which, it is said, will in all probability include the organization of a Committee of Public Safety. It is evident that, whatever opinion may be entertained concerning the matter in some quarters here, the people of Philadelphia themselves think it time to be up and doing.

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

New Buildings Erected in 1871.

Tuesday afternoon Mr. R. M. Reed, Building Inspector, filed his annual report for 1871 with Controller McGowan. Following is a copy of the document, giving the total number of new buildings and their aggregate value, also showing the figures for the same, in 1870:

OFFICE OF CITY BUILDING INSPECTOR, PITTSBURGH, January 31, 1872.

To R. J. McGowan, Controller:

I have the honor herewith to submit a report of the transactions of this office from February 1st, 1871, to January 31st, 1872, in accordance with an ordinance for the regulation and inspection of buildings, passed by Councils the 28th day of March, 1870.

The number of buildings for which permits were issued during the year, was as follows:

Ward.	Brick Dwellings.	Brick Stores.	Brick Factories.	Brick Additions and Alterations.	Total.	Frame.	Frame Additions and Alterations.	Total.	Total for 1871.	Total for 1870.	Total Value for 1871.	Total Value for 1870.
1	5	1	1	1	8	28	20	48	56		40,100	46,321
2	1	...	...	1	2	21	...	21	23		1,200	81,440
3	4	2	2	11	19	72	20	92	111		197,300	174,433
4	7	6	...	11	24	28	...	28	52		75,900	83,965
5	6	1	...	11	18	21	...	21	39		28,800	15,623
6	29	1	2	22	54	47	30	77	131		67,300	54,220
7	12	1	2	21	36	21	22	43	79		49,850	39,441
8	15	2	4	21	42	23	...	23	65		52,150	36,955
9	3	1	...	3	7	11	...	11	18		18,100	11,800
10	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	9	9		5,300	15,800
11	46	7	8	40	101	40	...	40	141		120,400	67,000
12	23	21	8	61	64	...	...	...	118		118,605	76,800
13	7	1	...	6	14	64	...	64	78		47,700	61,850
14	27	21	2	50	100	16	...	16	116		116,000	192,675
15	14	2	1	30	47	54	...	54	101		101,900	75,600
16	8	49	3	60	80	...	...	...	62		62,815	77,172
17	61	56	3	47	117	151	...	151	268		268,300	98,062
18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	14,022
19	18	21	...	34	73	13	...	13	86		73,350	71,200
20	23	36	1	59	59	...	...	...	119		202,600	88,300
21	28	21	...	51	100	25	...	25	125		125,300	70,000
22	14	2	...	30	46	70	...	70	116		116,000	26,850
23	4	19	...	23	47	19	...	19	66		66,000	34,300
	367	541	49	758	885	1,869	742	2,611	3,496		1,861,310	

The number of dangerous buildings is as follows: Buildings condemned and pulled down, 5; buildings condemned and repaired, 16; chimneys and fire walls condemned and repaired, 11. Total, 32.

The following is a statement of the amounts received for the year ending January 31, 1872: February, 1871, $71; March, $322; April, $207 50; May, $457 00; June, $1,784; July, $304 50; August, $363; September, $828; October, $176 50; November, $207 50; December, $104; January, 1872, $101. Total, $3,126 50. This amount has been paid cash into the City Treasury at sundry times.

From the above it will be seen that the number of new buildings erected in 1871 was forty less than in the previous year, and that the additions were ninety less. The total number of permits for new buildings, alterations and additions for the year is 150 less than for the preceding year. The total value of the buildings erected in 1871, however, exceeds the total value of those for 1870 by $28,426, a fact which goes to show that the buildings put up last year were of a much better class than those of the year previous. Respectfully submitted by R. M. REED,

City Building Inspector.

Latest About Dr. Livingstone.

In view of the renewed anxiety manifested concerning Dr. Livingstone, and the fact that one or more expeditions are being fitted out to send in search of him, a brief statement of the exact position of affairs at the date of the latest authentic intelligence regarding him may be of interest. The last letter received from Dr. Livingstone was dated May 30, 1869, from Ujiji, Lake Tanganyika. In it he speaks of the unwillingness of the Arab traders to take charge of his letters to Zanzibar. He writes for fresh stores and men, and says that in the meantime he may explore the Manyena country and the lakes west of Tanganyika. June, 1870, the British Government granted $5,000 to supply fresh stores and men to Livingstone—not by means of a relief expedition sent from England, but by parties of natives sent by the Consul from Zanzibar to the interior. It is also said that these parties, with a portion of the stores, has succeeded in attaining a point within reach of Livingstone at Manyena, but neither letters from Livingstone nor proof of the stores having reached him have reached Zanzibar. The native in charge of the stores simply states that he received a letter from Livingstone, dated October 15, 1870, which letter he has not transmitted to Zanzibar. It is doubted, therefore, whether the traveler has been provided with the means either of continuing his explorations or returning to the coast; and it is probable he is detained against his will, and in a position from which only an expedition, such as is now proposed in England, headed by a resolute and competent European traveler, can extricate him.

The Marvels of Science.

A "talking machine" is on exhibition in Cincinnati, which is characterized by the press of that city as a wonderful triumph of mechanical skill and ingenuity. The machine, which stands on a small table, consists of a complicated arrangement of rubber tubes, reeds, keys, pedals, strings and wires. The lungs are represented by a pair of bellows, operated by a pedal, the glottis and trachea by reeds and pipes, and the lips and tongue by India rubber. The machine has an upper and lower jaw, and lips and a tongue, but no nose. In the formation of sounds where the air passes through the nostrils, as *m* and *n*, by a simple arrangement the glottis is opened for the passage of the air, accomplishing the same result as in the human vocal organs. The machine is able to utter fourteen simple sounds, the remainder being formed by combinations of these primitive. It talks with perfect facility, of course; that is, by sounds alone, without any silent letters. The valves are operated by means of keys, similar in arrangement to the key-board of a piano. The machine articulates German, English, Greek and Hebrew words and sentences with great distinctness, and, by an attachment to produce the nasal sounds, it pronounces French with astonishing correctness. By the opening and closing of the glottis, the pitch of the voice may be varied from high to low, but in whatever key a sentence is pitched it is pronounced to the close, suffering no modulation, except a falling inflection at the close. Every part of the machine is open to inspection, and the newspapers declare that there is no possibility of fraud.

VIVE LA BUMBO! The gypsum block from which the Cardiff Giant was carved, has proved the corner-stone of a very comfortable fortune for the inventor of that celebrated fraud. Mr. Hall, the originator of the hideous statue, is now said to be building a large brick block for business houses, in Binghamton, from the proceeds of his experiment upon the public credulity.

NOT a little concern is said to be expressed in England, respecting the rapid rate at which the supply of her best iron ores is failing. The only British ores which are free from deleterious compounds are those which are found in the carboniferous limestone of Cumberland, and in certain portions of Lancanshire; and so great has been the demand for them, especially since the discovery of the Bessemer process, that within the past couple of years their price has advanced fifty and even seventy per cent; while, notwithstanding that the entire products of the mines have been contracted for up to 1874, the supply is so inadequate that the British iron masters have recently organized a company for the purpose of importing a high grade of ores from Spain. Another significant fact, showing the deficiency of England in ores suitable for the higher qualities of steel, is, that although she is the largest iron exporter in the world, she is also at the same time a very considerable importer of pig metal from Sweden and Russia, for which she pays a hundred and fifty dollars a ton, when ordinary British pig can be had for five or six times less money. While, therefore, Great Britain is now at the head of the iron interest, it seems probable that she will not long so continue. Indeed, while the rate of increase in the iron production of Great Britain during the past ten years has been only about forty-four per cent., in our own country it has been fully one hundred and twenty per cent. If the free traders can only be prevented from carrying out their programme of the destruction of one-half of the wealth of the country, and the seizure of the other half for revenue, and proper care is exercised by Congress to guard our vast and vital domestic industries from the assaults made upon them from without, hardly another generation will elapse before the United States will be the greatest iron and steel producing country of the world.

The Jeff Davis sleeping-coach scandal, which created such a sensation at the time of its publication, was temporarily revived, the other day. It appears that General Maury, well known as a Confederate commander during the late war, recently got aboard the Huntsville-bound train at Chattanooga, and at first intended to take a berth in the sleeping-coach, but after ascertaining that it was in charge of the conductor who had made the statement which had compromised Mr. Davis' moral standing so seriously, several months ago, he went into the ordinary coach. Not far from Huntsville, General Maury entered the sleeping-car, approached the conductor, and asked him if he was the man who originated "those damnable lies about Mr. Davis." The conductor replied, in substance, that he was "the man who had told the truth about the affair." General Maury then denounced him as a liar, whereupon he seized a poker, knocked the General down, and beat him so badly that it was at first supposed he was fatally injured. At last accounts, however, General Maury was doing well and was not considered in any danger.

THE Montreal *News* pursues the discussion of the commercial prospects of Canada, observing that "we must be free to regulate our commercial policy to suit our geographical and political life, even to the extent of imposing differential duties." The people are intent on practical reforms. "The census returns," says the *News*, "startled those who indulged in dreams about our increase in population and wealth, and the cry that comes to us from our native born who have been driven from home by sheer necessity to seek a living in New England finds a painful inquiry into the nature of those causes which impel our people to migrate to the United States. Half the acrimony and bitterness of our electoral conflicts arises from the despair felt at the stagnation and torpor of industrial life. It is felt that we cannot cope with the evil unless we be invested with the attributes claimed by Australia, "Freedom of commercial legislation and the right to adopt different tariffs." It would be affectation to deny that such ideas are spreading rapidly throughout this province. They are assuming a national character, and must essentially affect the Government of Canada. We are all agreed as to the necessity of fostering native industries so essential to our prosperity and political status, though differences exist as to the policy we should pursue."

THE enormous importance of English railways as an element of national wealth may be inferred from an official document just issued by the British Board of Trade, which shows that up to the close of 1870, the amount of capital actually expended on railways, out of capital actually "paid up," to the exclusion of further sums which the companies are authorized to raise, was £369,968,673, and on the first of January, 1872, the amount actually invested in railway property in the British Islands was £900,000,000. To appreciate the actual amount, it is only necessary to say that it is more than three-fourths of the national debt of England, is more than the United States raised and borrowed for their charges of the civil war, and is twice the amount that all France has covenanted to pay to Germany. In 1849, when the total paid-up British railway capital was about £230,000,000, the total revenue from railways was £23,000,000, or 10 per cent. In 1870, when it stood at about £530,000,000, the total revenue had increased to £45,000,000. This means that while the capital had not much more than doubled, its earnings had more than quadrupled.

CAPTAIN SEFERER, formerly commander of the Vanderbilt, who has been for some months superintending the building of iron steamships on the Clyde, ships intended for the South American service, says that there is no America, material as cheap as it is in England, and I will not fear British competition. The intelligence, activity and thoroughness of our American ship-builders more than offset the cheap British labor. I know all about it. I have been for five months watching the building of two steamers, and I can't let up day or night. Things will go in inferior style if I am away, and the workmanship is always bad, because they don't pay their men decent wages. The Yankee will do the work of three Englishmen for the same money. The Yankee workmen have gone away, either to the United States or the Colonies. Give us cheap iron in America and we don't want any cheap labor. This is the testimony of a man on the ground.

A GREATLY needed law was last week passed by Congress, providing for the issue of duplicate checks after the expiration of six months from the date of the originals, and the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurers are directed to pay them upon notice and proof of the loss of the original checks. Should the amount of the check exceed $10,000 no duplicate check can be issued, and the holder has no relief. The Treasury Department has heretofore been put to much trouble by persons whose checks had been lost, stolen or destroyed, but this new law simplifies the matter, and relieves both the government and the holders of such checks. Heretofore, whenever a holder of a check issued by a disbursing officer of the Government lost it, he was entirely without relief, since the law did not authorize the issue of a duplicate.

AMONG investors the bonds of the Northern Pacific Railroad are rapidly growing in favor. Yesterday and Tuesday $239,000 of these securities were disposed of, and during the month of January the sales aggregated $1,514,000. This does not include the bonds sold in London, whereby several millions were taken in a remarkably short space of time. As the construction of the new trans-continental railroad progresses its bonds become more popular, for the rich regions opened to the country by the onward movement of the Pacific Railroad dispel the last shadow of a doubt that may have lingered in the minds of those unfamiliar with the great resources of the Northwest as to the vast amount of business which will flow in upon the Northern Pacific long before it reaches its grand terminus on the coast of the Pacific Ocean.—*Philadelphia Inquirer, February 1.*

SOME time ago many of the papers published an account of a terrible battle away off in the wilds of Nevada, between Jones, an escaped convict, and Armisteads, the party of men who have endeavored to capture him. The fight was described as with Henry rifles at short range, and both men were reported killed. It was a good story, and it seems a pity to spoil it, but the truth of history compels us to state that Armisteadt himself now declares that he is still living and hasn't lost any convicts to hunt for, for the simple reason that Nevada won't pay for dead cattle of that sort. He adds, with Western directness, "the man that says I am dead is a liar," and of course we are bound to take his work for it.

THE marked changes which are taking place in the carrying trade of the world are indicated by the fact that wool is now being shipped in large quantities to this country from the East Indies and Australia by way of the Suez Canal and Liverpool; in connection with which subject it may be noted that the probable cession of the canal to an English Company is again rumored; simultaneously with which report comes the intelligence from Constantinople that Turkey will be less exacting in the event of this transfer coming to pass. It is also stated that Russia has abandoned her opposition to the neutralization of the canal.

MOUNT HOOD, in Oregon, which is reported to be throwing out a dense column of smoke, and threatening an active volcanic eruption, is one of several peaks of the Cascade Mountains (known as the Sierra Nevada in California), every one of which is known as an extinct volcano—unless the present manifestation of life makes the word "extinct" inappropriate. The other important peaks are Mount Jefferson, the Three Sisters and Mount Peak, ranging in height from ten to eleven thousand feet; the height of Mount Hood is about thirteen thousand feet. There are Indian traditions which indicate an eruption of Mount Hood; but there exists no other evidence on the subject except that of scientific observation.

ALABAMA CLAIMS.

Full Text of the American Case.

Our Losses, Direct and Indirect.

Destruction of Property, Increase in Insurance Risks and Transfer of Our Commercial Marine to the British Flag.

A Plain Statement of Our Wrongs.

The Hubbub in England Not Surprising.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 7, 1872.

The following is the full text of the American case in relation to the claims for the indirect damages. It is the sixth and closing chapter of the printed volume submitted to the arbitors at Geneva. The chapter is entitled "The Tribunal should award a sum in gross to the United States."

In the opening Conference of the Joint High Commission relating to the Alabama claims, the American Commissioners stated the nature of the demand of the United States. They said that there were extensive direct losses in the capture and detention of a large number of vessels and their cargoes, and in heavy national expenditures in pursuit of cruisers, and indirect injury in the transfer of a large part of the American commercial marine to the British flag; in the enhanced payments of insurance, in the prolongation of the war, and in the addition of a large sum to the cost of the war and suppression of the rebellion. They further said that the amount of direct losses to individuals which had thus far been presented amounted to about fifteen millions of dollars without interest, which amount was liable to be greatly increased by claims which had not been presented, and that the direct loss to the Government in the pursuit of cruisers could easily be ascertained by certificates of Government accounting officers. They added that, in the hope of an amicable settlement, no estimate was made of indirect losses, without prejudice, however, to the right of indemnification on their account in the event of no such settlement being made. The British Commissioners declined to make the amicable settlement, which was proposed on the part of the United States.

The Joint High Commission then entered into negotiations, which resulted in an agreement, in order to remove and adjust all claims on the part of the United States, and to provide for the speedy settlement of such claims, that all claims growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels which have given rise to the claims generally known as the Alabama claims should be referred to this tribunal of arbitration. It was further agreed that this tribunal, should it find that Great Britain had by any act or omission failed to fulfill any of the duties set forth in the rules in the sixth article of the treaty, or recognized by principles of international law, not inconsistent with such rules, might then proceed to award a sum in gross to be paid by Great Britain to the United States for all the claims referred to it.

The claims as stated by the American Commissioners may be classified as follows:

First, claims for direct losses growing out of the destruction of vessels and their cargoes by insurgent cruisers.

Second, national expenditures in pursuit of these cruisers.

Third, loss in the transfer of American commercial marine to the British flag.

Fourth, enhanced payments of insurance.

Fifth, prolongation of the war and the addition of a large sum to the cost of the war and suppression of the rebellion.

So far as these losses and expenditures grew out of acts committed by the several cruisers, the United States are entitled to ask compensation and remuneration therefor before this tribunal. The claims for direct losses growing out of the destruction of vessels and their cargoes may be further divided into:

First, claims for the destruction of vessels and property under the flag of the United States.

Second, claims for destruction of vessels and property under the flag of the United States.

Third, claims for damages or injuries to persons growing out of the destruction of each class of vessels.

In the accompanying volume seven, the Tribunal will find ample data for determining the amount of damage which should be awarded in consequence of injuries inflicted by reason of the destruction of vessels or property, whether of the Government or private persons. The government vessels destroyed were of two classes: those under charge of the Treasury Department, and those under the War Department. The tribunal of arbitration will find in volume seven detailed statements of this class of losses, certified by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of War, and as the case may be. The United States reserve, however, as to this and as to all other classes of claims, the right to present further claims and further evidence in support of these and such further claims for the consideration of this tribunal, and also similar rights as to all classes of claims.

In case this tribunal shall determine not to award a sum in gross to the United States, the the United States, with this reservation, presents a detailed statement of all claims which have yet come to their knowledge for the destruction of vessels and property by cruisers. The statement shows the cruiser which did the injury, the vessel destroyed, the several claimants for the vessel and for the cargo, the amount insured upon each, and all other facts necessary to enable the tribunal to reach a conclusion as to the amount of the injury committed by the cruiser. It also shows the nature and character of the proof placed in the hands of the United States by the sufferers. The original papers referred to are now on file in the Department of State at Washington, and can be produced if desired. The United States only ask a reasonable notice, giving them sufficient opportunity to produce them.

It is impossible at present for the United States to present a more specific and detailed statement of damages or injuries to persons growing out of the destruction of the last class of vessels. Every vessel had its officers and crews, who were entitled to the protection of the flag of the United States, and to be included in any sum which the tribunal may see fit to award. But they are differently situated from the vessels which are furnished to ascertain the names and tonnage of the different vessels destroyed, and to form an estimate of the loss. The crews hardly should be left wholly dependent upon their own proof, or be thus deprived of their means of subsistence, and to determine what aggregate sum it would be just to place in the hands of the United States to award to them. It cannot be less than hundreds of thousands, and possibly millions of dollars.

The United States present to the tribunal a detailed statement of the amount of national expenditure in pursuit of insurgent cruisers, verified in the manner proposed by the American members of the Joint High Commission. The aggregate of this amount is several millions of dollars.

The United States ask the Tribunal of Arbitration to estimate the amount which ought to be paid them for the transfer of the American commercial marine to the British flag, in consequence of the acts of rebel cruisers. On the 13th of May, 1862, the Senate and House of Commons of the great losses which the United States were suffering in this respect. He said:

"You have been carrying on hostilities from these shores against the people of the United States, and have been inflicting an amount of damage on that country such as hardly was ever produced by many ordinary wars. It is estimated that the loss sustained by the capture and burning of American vessels has been about fifteen millions dollars, or nearly three million pounds sterling. But that is a small part of the injury which has been inflicted upon the American marine. You have rendered the far greater vast mercantile property for the present valueless. Under the system of free trade by which the commerce of the world is now so largely carried on, and Americans, in pursuit of profit on the flag of any maritime power, you throw trade into the hands of its competitors, because it is no longer profitable for merchants or manufacturers to contemplate the risks which those vessels become liable to war risks. I have here one or two facts which I should like to lay before the honorable and learned gentlemen, in order to show the way in which this has been operating. When he has heard them, he will see what a complete case it is to say that our laws have been found sufficient to enforce our neutrality. I hold in my hand an account of the foreign trade of New York for the quarter ending June 30th, 1862, and in the quarter ending June 30th, 1863, which is the last date up to which a comparison is made. I find that the total amount of foreign trade of New York for the first named period was ninety-two million dollars, of which sixty-two million dollars were carried in American bottoms, and thirty million dollars in foreign. The state of things rapidly changed as the war continued, for it appears for the quarter ending June 30th, 1863, the amount of the foreign trade of New York was eighty-eight million dollars, of which amount twenty-three million dollars were carried in American vessels, and sixty-five million in foreign. This change brought about being that, while in 1860, two-thirds of the commerce of New York was carried on in American bottoms, in 1863, three-fifths of it was carried in foreign bottoms. You see t erefore, what a complete revolution must have taken place in the value of American shipping, and what has been the consequence? That a very large transfer has been made of American shipping to English owners, because the proprietors no longer found it profitable to carry on their business. A document has been laid on the table which gives us some important information on this subject. I refer to an account of the number and tonnage of United States vessels which have been registered in the United Kingdom and in the ports of British North America between the years 1808 and 1863, both inclusive. A glance shows that the number of United States shipping to English capitalists in each of the years comprised in that period was as follows: In 1808, vessels 39, tonnage 12,684; in 1859, vessels, 49, tonnage, 21,998; in 1808, vessels, 41, tonnage, 13,638; in 1861, vessels, 126, tonnage, 71,677; in 1862, vessels, 135, tonnage, 64,968; in 1863, vessels, 348, tonnage, 252,576. [A foot note here shows that in the year 1864 106 vessels were transferred to the British flag, with an aggregate tonnage of 92,092 tons.] I am told that this operation is now going on as fast as ever. Now, I hold this to be the most serious aspect of the question of our relations with America. I care very little about what the newspapers may write or orators may utter on one side or the other. We may balance off all inflammatory speech from an honorable member here against a similar speech made in Congress at Washington; we may pair off leading articles published in New York against one published in London; but little consequence, I suspect, would be attached to either. The two countries, I hope, would discount these incendiary paragraphs at their proper value. But what I do fear in the relations between these two nations of the same race, is the heaping up of a gigantic material grievance such as we are now accumulating, by transactions connected with these cruisers, because there is a vast amount of individual suffering, personal wrong and personal rancor arising out of the matter, and that in a country where popular feeling rules in public affairs, I am not sure that any legislation can meet this question. What will be the rates of insurance, what with these captures, and what with the rapid transfer of tonnage to British capitalists, you have virtually made valueless that vast property. Why, if you had gone and helped the Confederates by bombarding all accessible seaport towns of America, a new Hell Gate and Race, which, as I say, I have not been sacrificed; but you could hardly have done more injury in destroying property than you have done by these few cruisers.

After reciting the case of Mr. Laird, builder, the "case" proceeds: With the reservations already stated, the United States present the amount, so far as it has come to their knowledge, of enhanced payments of insurance caused by the acts of the insurgent cruisers. All these cruisers came from England; and should the tribunal find Great Britain responsible for the injuries caused by their acts, it cannot be denied that the war risk was the result of their dispatch from British ports. The amount of this increase in the rate of insurance

FINANCE AND TRADE

WEDNESDAY, February 7, 1872.

The local money market still works with comfortable ease, though the loanable funds are all taken up by good parties.

We have sales reported of Allegheny 7-30s at 93½, Connellsville 7s at 90, Allegheny Co. 6s at 78, City of Pittsburgh 6s at 73—6s at 91. At Harrisburg the various Pittsburgh financial projects seem to be advancing, and from the number of new banks chartering, it seems as if banking were looked on as a kind of *lapis philosophorum* to turn all things to—greenbacks. The question is often asked why "the sale of Federal and other securities in Federal currency in London is rated at 109 4-9? and why was $4 44 4-9 established for calculating sterling exchange! We answer that there is no such rate as the one first named for the sale of Federal securities. The reply to the last question will give the key to the whole calculation. There was a day when the Spanish pillar dollar contained just enough of pure silver to make it worth 4s. 6d. sterling, and as that was a convenient sum to reckon, it was established at that value by law, and so continued long after its relative value had changed. In this country the earliest Congress of the Confederate States adopted this value, making the dollar, both Mexican and Spanish, *equal* to 4s. 6d. or exactly $4 44 4-9 to the pound sterling. And this arbitrary assumption has become fastened on the mercantile world, so that it seems impossible to effect any change. When any Federal securities, or obligations of any sort, the value of which on their face is expressed in dollars sold at London, they are not sold for real pounds sterling, but at a price to be reckoned at 4s. 6d. to the dollar. Thus, when United States bonds of 1867 are sold at 93, the seller of a $1,000 bond would receive Bank of England notes at the rate of 4s. 6d. to the 100 of that price; and with these notes he could buy more than one thousand dollars in United States gold coin, if any were offered on the London market. This is all that is necessary for any one to keep in mind in any and all of the relations between sterling and federal currency. Every pound sterling means twenty shillings, and four and a half of those shillings are the nominal equivalent of the dollar. To bring the latter to the real par, a rate of percentage is named which varies according to the price of exchange, but the reckoning is always on that basis of four and a half shillings to the dollar. Thus when sterling exchange is 110 the seller means that on the arbitrary reckoning of 4s 6d to the dollar he means to add one-tenth; that is, 110 means one and one-tenth of this arbitrary price. And the same rule applies to all sales of Federal securities. When a buyer offers 100, or nominal par for a Federal bond, he offers 4s 6d to the dollar, which is actually more than par by about 9½ per cent.; when he offers 90 he offers nineteenths of 4s 6d to the dollar.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morning.	Noon.	Closing.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	115	115	114¾
U. S. Bonds of 1862	110¾	110½	110¾
U. S. Bonds of 1864	110¾	110½	110¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865	111¼	111	110½
U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new)	110¾	110¾	110¾
U. S. Bonds of 1867	111¾	111¾	111¾
U. S. Bonds of 1868	112	112	111¾
10-40s	109¾	109¾	109¾
New 5s	108¾	108¾	108¾
Gold	109¼	110¼	110¼
Currency 6s	114¾	114¾	114¾

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
Gold		110¼			
United States 6s of 1881		115			
United States 5-20s of 1862		110¾			
United States 5-20s of 1864		110¾			
United States 5-20s of 1865		111			
United States 10-40s		109¾			
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865		110½			
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868		111¾			
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	2 coves	112			
Union Pacific Railroad	21,140	4 25	1	1,480	5 45
Central Pacific Railroad	HAZLEWOOD & BLACKSTOCK SOLD				
Currency Pacifics	2 2,320	5 00	16	18,200	5 12
	18 20,000	5 50			
	HEDGES, HUFF & CO. SOLD				
	4 5,300	6 37½	2	2,100	5 87½
	1 1,000	6 37½	2	2,200	5 75
	2 2,000	6 40	2	2,200	5 50
	1 1,000	6 50	2	2,200	5 37½
	1 1,010	6 60	1	1,520	5 00
	1 1,000	6 75	1	1,530	4 87½
	2 1,960	6 80	12	13,000	4 60
	2 3,150	6 90	14	20,030	4 50
	26 42,080	5 75			
	Hogs.				
	SADLER, HAVENS & CO. SOLD				
No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
	15 13,380	$4 50	18	18,770	$5 12
	1 1,000	4 75	1	1,040	5 00
	1	4 12½	1	6,100	6 87
	1	4 75	1	6,100	6 87
	18 22,600	6 10	5	6,840	5 90
	HOLMES, LAFFERTY & CO. SOLD				
	1	4 87½	2	2,100	5 87½
160	23,770	5 20	10	3,540	5 40
12	3,480	5 50	38	27,120	5 40
1	1,010	5 50	34	25,120	5 30
91	20,250	5 40	53	13,220	5 30
462	57,750	5 25	1	1,000	5 25
81	10,650	5 20	12	26,240	5 25
1	1,000	5 37½	1	1,000	5 25
64	13,050	5 50	29	9,200	5 45
14	1,460	5 60	1	1,000	5 50
1	4,050	4 80	4	4,100	5 40
64	13,690	5 25	98	15,920	5 20
10	1,840	5 37½	10	3,280	5 25
40	8,530	5 10	62	8,250	5 00
10	12,300	5 37½	1	1,010	5 00
85	4,160	5 10			
	SMITH, WATSON & BRIGGS SOLD				
25	7,620	5 60	34	8,320	5 40
	200	4 65	56	14,350	5 50
29	7,250	5 50	12	12,000	5 60
14	14,470	5 12	18	5,130	5 37
1	1,550	5 40	37	Uncl.	5 50
7	650	5 60	87	19,520	5 10
2	2,000	5 62	20	4,800	5 00
	HAZLEWOOD & BLACKSTOCK SOLD				
74	24,120	5 50	97	12,700	5 00
	400	4 65	56	13,000	5 00
38	10,400	5 50	12	2,500	5 00
	200	4 75	94	19,000	5 00
	HEDGES, HUFF & CO SOLD				
48	12,900	5 10	1	4,520	5 2
97	27,240	5 20	60	11,850	5 2
131	32,840	5 25	62	12,110	5 2½
28	7,000	5 37½	22	4,140	5 5
114	24,670	5 15	18	13,770	5 1
72	13,350	5 12½	63	11,600	5 0
29	8,010	5 60	84	11,250	5 0½
	SADLER, HAVENS & CO. SOLD				
49	12,920	5 10	39	7,800	5 25
32	7,900	5 12½	97	20,000	5 30
210	52,270	5 15	107	23,450	5 20
79	15,060	5 20	29	21,150	5 25
	HOLMES, LAFFERTY & CO. SOLD				
No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
1	1,250	$ 5	81	8,230	6
83	7,090	6 00	16	13,150	7 35
1	1,000	6 10	1	1,010	7 50
75	per head.	7 00	12	11,300	7 50
	7,200	per head.	7 50	per head.	7 50
	SMITH, WATSON & BRIGGS SOLD				
193	15,980	6 65	168	14,040	7 25
179	15,090	7 00	150	13,450	7 30
1	8,040	6 75	92	6,440	6 25
1	1,000	6 80	29	2,280	6 25
	HAZLEWOOD & BLACKSTOCK SOLD				
161	13,770	7 12½		13,350	7 50
178	12,910	7 25		per head	7 50
201	19,350	7 50	109	9,800	6 50
96	7,310	7 40		29,100	7 50
	HEDGES, HUFF & CO SOLD				
69	6,650	7 50	33	2,100	6 65
221	22,080	7 37½		10,000	7 25
	SADLER, HAVENS & CO. SOLD				
189	13,750	5 25	92	7,800	5 62
109	9,040	5 50		10,000	5 25
	H. ERISMAN BOUGHT				
148	17,010	6 85	105	8,370	6 35
185	12,580	6 80	184	13,530	6 25
242	21,240	7 15	81	15,960	6 60
184	16,020	7 25	172	15,470	7 10
156	17,670	7 30	158	16,200	7 15
81	8,230	8 00	167	14,690	7 20
139	12,750	7 35	178	17,350	7 25
158	15,310	7 40	178	15,850	7 30
158	15,310	7 50	178	15,850	7 35
158	15,310	7 60	178	17,500	7 45
168	16,100	7 70	178	16,150	7 50
178	18,020	7 80	159	14,170	7 90
178	18,020	7 90	178	13,220	8 00
178	19,350	7 50	249	23,490	7 60
267	22,110	7 65	251	22,080	7 60

ALLEGHENY LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } MONDAY, February 5, 1872. }

Cattle.

The arrivals of cattle by the various railroads centering at the Union Yards were 30 cars, or 575 head. In addition to these, Orr & Williams had 19 head, Holmes, Lafferty & Co. 25, and F. Krause 31 from East Liberty, which, with some scattering droves from the surrounding country, made about 675 head of cattle on sale this morning. The supply was considerably less than the offerings of last week, and the average quality was much better. The cattle from Chicago were of much better grades than has been coming from there lately. The market this morning opened up slow and continued so for some time, but towards noon it began to show a pattern in appearance. Drovers expected the market would be an active one, as the supply of cattle on sale was not large, in a measure their hopes were disappointed as a good many of the buyers had to go to other markets, and were not very anxious to purchase. Sellers held cattle at prices, from ¼ to ¾c higher than last week, and the buyers were unwilling to pay any advance. The market consequently slow until the close, with prices a shade higher than last week. Notwithstanding the fact that the number of cattle on sale was small, there were several lots left over unsold.

Stockers.

The number of stockers on sale this morning small. There was a fair attendance of farmers, and dealers from the country, with a view to purchasing. The transactions were necessarily limited and the prices about the same as ruled last week.

Bulls.

The supply of bulls on sale this morning fair. The demand was not very large and buyers were inclined to purchase at low figures. Sales were made of all the offerings at prices running from $3 00 to $4 75, according to the quality, condition, &c.

Cows.

The number of fresh cows on sale small. The demand for milkers continues light, though the feeling has improved somewhat, and dealers are more hopeful of the future. Sales range from $35 00 to $60 00.

Sheep.

The number of sheep on sale a little larger than for some time past. An advance of ½c per pound was made in appearance at the yards this morning and purchased a few for shipment East. The quality did not suit, and after purchasing about 100 head, sent them to East Liberty. The market ruled moderately active, at prices pretty much the same as last week.

Hogs.

The receipts of hogs lighter than for some time past. The market was but moderately active, owing to the fact that prices were a little higher.

The last week have had to pay higher prices at East Liberty for their stock, and were compelled to make a corresponding advance here. Buyers objected to paying any higher figures, and with this feeling ruling the transactions were not so large as they otherwise would have been.

Arrivals.

The following are the arrivals of live stock at the Allegheny Yards as reported by S. B. McKown:

	Cars.
Marks & Bro., from Chicago	3
S. Trueman, from Chicago	2
M. Varner, from Chicago	2
P. Hartman, from Chicago	1
Smith & Moonshine, from Chicago	1
Keefer & Byer, from Chicago	2
Jacob Shamberger, from Chicago	1
Rothchild & Zeigler, from Ohio	1
M. Kruse, from Chicago	1
Jacob Neeper, from Newark, Ohio	1
Smoutz & W., from Utica, O	1
S. Katz from Chicago	1
Greenwald & Kann from Chicago	2
Greenwald & Kann from Ohio	2
Rothchild & Zeigler from Ohio	1
Rosine n & Martin from Marysville, O	1
P. Dillon from Marysville, O	1
S. W. Smith from Smith's Ferry, Pa	1
W. Quinn from Franklin, O	1
F. Hutchinson from Knox county, O	1
J. W. Unger from Canton, mixed stock	1

Sales.

Following are the principal sales made by the different dealers:

S. Truman sold 43 head Ohio cattle at from $4 62a 7 00 ₱ 100 lbs.

Orr & Williams sold 1 load Ohio cattle for A. B. Hutchinson at from $5 75a6 25. Also 1 load East Liberty cattle at from $4 25a6 37 ₱ 100 lbs.

Good & Kauffman sold 9 head Ohio cattle at from $5a6 ₱ 100 lbs.

Hazelwood & Blackstock sold 20 head Ohio cattle at from $5 37a6 50 ₱ 100 lbs.

Peter Hartman sold 54 head Chicago cattle at prices from $6 25 to $7 ₱ 100 lbs.

T. C. Dalzell sold 6 head Lawrence county cattle at prices from $3 50 to $4 ₱ 100 lbs. Also, 12 head stockers at $4.

Robinson & Martin sold 17 head Ohio common cattle at prices from $4 to $6 ₱ 100 lbs.

S. Shamberg sold 15 head stock cattle at prices from $3 to $3 50 ₱ 100 lbs.

Sadler, Havens & Co. sold 21 head Indiana and Illinois cattle at prices from $5 50 to $6 00.

Marks & Bro. sold 78 head Chicago cattle, mixed, at $6 to $7 25.

Keefer & Byer sold 40 head Chicago cattle at prices from $5 00 to $6 75.

M. Varner sold 2 loads Ohio Chicago cattle at prices from $5 75 to $7 25 ₱ 100 lbs.

Comparing sales of Ohio and Chicago cattle at prices from $4 50 to $7 12.

Carr & McAllister sold 2 head extra Ohio cattle at $7 75 per 100 lbs.

Holmes, Lafferty & Co., sold 25 head western cattle at prices from $4 to $5 50 per 100 lbs.

F. Krause sold 30 head Ohio cattle at figures from $4 25 to $5 50 per 100 lbs.

Smith & Moonshine sold 1 load Chicago cattle at prices varying from $5 50 to $6 75 per 100 lbs.

Rosine n & Martin sold 3 loads Ohio cattle at prices from $5 75 to $6 75 ₱ 100 lbs.

Greenewald & Kahn sold 65 head Ohio and Chicago cattle at prices from $5 to $7 ₱ 100 lbs.

Jacob L. beman sold 10 head Ohio cattle at prices from $6 62 to $6 87 ₱ 100 lbs.

Rothschild & Zeigler sold 45 head Ohio and Chicago cattle at prices from $5 75 to $7 25 ₱ 100 lbs.

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } WEDNESDAY, February 7, 1872. }

Below will be found our report of the live stock market for the week ending this evening:

Cattle.

At the time of closing our last report the market, under the influence of light arrivals, favorable weather and better advices from the east was moderately active at previous quotations from ¼ to ¾c higher than ruled the week previous. The run up to the time of closing our report had been light, and sellers succeeded in forcing prices up, but at the advance the market was slower and sales harder to effect, eastern men claiming that the market would not stand any advance. On Thursday the receipts were again light, and the market but moderately active at the advance, most of the eastern dealers purchasing sparingly, and none of them took large droves home. On Friday the market opened up with a light supply on sale, but still enough for the demand. Most of the buyers left for the east on Thursday and on Friday with but few buyers here, the market ruled dull and sluggish, with prices ¾c lower than at the opening of the market. On Saturday little was done in the way of trade; a few small lots were sent to Allegheny for retail, and the market closed dull at Friday's prices. This week the receipts up till Tuesday were light. The market opened up with favorable advices from New York, while those from Philadelphia were not so good. Sellers held cattle firm at last week's prices, though but little was done in the way of trade the few buyers here contenting themselves with looking around among the different lots on sale. To-day, Wednesday, the usual advance of buyers, though the number here is not large, and with but a moderate run of cattle on sale, sellers have been able to hold the market firm. The feeling is a shade better, and cattle are selling at prices a little higher than last week. The offerings on sale in quality are better than for some time, and, as will be seen by the sales, prices are higher. This is in part owing to the class of cattle being better, as we think there is not much change in prices since last week.

Bulls.

The offerings of bulls were light this week. The demand for this class of stock has fallen off greatly, being reported quiet. There has been but little inquiry here for them there was two weeks ago, and from appearances, it looks as if prices would not be so high.

Stockers.

The supply of stockers coming on the market is small. The demand for them has increased considerably and dealers and farmers are paying better prices than they were willing to do a short time ago. They would pay better prices than we would justify dealers in bringing them here, we have no doubt but what this branch of the trade would be more active. Yesterday some stockers sold from $4 50 to $4 75, figures not to be depended on, indeed better than farmers have heretofore been willing to pay.

Prices.

Following are the rulings for the different grades of cattle: Extra, 1,300 to 1,500 pound steers, $6a6 37; prime, 1,100 to 1,200 lbs steers, $5 25a5 75; common to medium, 1,000 to 1,100 lb steers, $4 75a5 25; bulls, $2 75 to 3 50; cows, fresh, $35a60; stags, $3 50 to $4 50.

Hogs.

At the time of closing our last report, the market was active, with a firm demand for all offerings at prices from $5 10 to $5 25 for tops, and from $4 75 to $5 00 for Yorkers. This week the market has been a light run of stock and prices have advanced considerably. On Friday prime Yorkers sold as high as $5 25, and tops as high as $5 40, the market closing moderately firm. On Monday there was a decline of 10c ₱ 100 on York hogs, the market closing dull on that grade. This week the run continues light and the quality of the arrivals not so good. Prime hogs have sold as high as $5 55, though most of the sales were made below that figure. On Yorkers the feeling was not so good, and most of the sales this week are in the neighborhood of 5c. Still ½ prime Philadelphia are talked scarce, and with a fair demand ruling the market on this grade is firm. Following are the prices current: Extra Philadelphia $5 45a5 55; prime Philadelphia $5 25a5 35; Yorkers $5 05a5 10; common $4 95.

Sheep.

Since our last report there has been scarcely any change worth reporting. The arrivals continue light, and with a fair demand sales are made of all kinds at fair figures. It may be proper to note that prime stock is wanted most, and sells for better prices relatively than more common grades.

The market rules firm and steady, with every prospect of continuing so for some time. This week if anything prices are a little higher than last week. Following are the rates current for the different grades: Extra 100 to 110 lbs, $7 25a7 65; prime, 90 to 100 lbs, $6 50a7; medium, 80 to 85 lbs $5 75a6 25; common, 85 to90a5 25; scalawags, $2 00a2 50.

Cattle.

HOLMES, LAFFERTY & CO. SOLD

No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
	1,650	$5 50	18	14,980	4 62
	1,000	5 00	1	1,000	4 50
21	22,630	5 00	16	13,760	4 50
18	20,960	5 00	1	1,000	4 50
17	17,050	5 25	2	2,200	4 50
16	14,840	5 00	2	2,200	4 50
	920	3 00	2	1,820	4 50
	SMITH, WATSON & BRIGGS SOLD				
	1,000	4 50	17	18,350	4 25
15	18,080	5 80	64	48,850	6 12
2 coves		3 00	64	48,850	6 12
18	21,140	4 25	1	1,480	5 45
	HAZLEWOOD & BLACKSTOCK SOLD				
2	2,320	5 00	16	18,200	5 12
18	20,000	5 50			
	HEDGES, HUFF & CO. SOLD				
4	5,300	6 37½	2	2,100	5 87½
1	1,000	6 37½	2	2,200	5 75
2	2,000	6 40	2	2,200	5 50
1	1,010	6 50	2	2,200	5 37½
1	1,010	6 60	1	1,520	5 00
1	1,000	6 75	1	1,530	4 87½
2	1,960	6 80	12	13,000	4 60
2	3,150	6 90	14	20,030	4 50
26	42,080	5 75			
	Hogs.				
	SADLER, HAVENS & CO. SOLD				
No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
15	13,380	$4 50	18	18,770	$5 12
1	1,000	4 75	1	1,040	5 00
1	1	4 12½	1	6,100	6 87
1	1	4 75	1	6,100	6 87
18	22,600	6 10	5	6,840	5 90
	HOLMES, LAFFERTY & CO. SOLD				
	1	4 87½	2	2,100	5 87½
160	23,770	5 20	10	3,540	5 40
12	3,480	5 50	38	27,120	5 40
1	1,010	5 50	34	25,120	5 30
91	20,250	5 40	53	13,220	5 30
462	57,750	5 25	1	1,000	5 25
81	10,650	5 20	12	26,240	5 25
1	1,000	5 37½	1	1,000	5 25
64	13,050	5 50	29	9,200	5 45
14	1,460	5 60	1	1,000	5 50
1	4,050	4 80	4	4,100	5 40
64	13,690	5 25	98	15,920	5 20
10	1,840	5 37½	10	3,280	5 25
40	8,530	5 10	62	8,250	5 00
10	12,300	5 37½	1	1,010	5 00
85	4,160	5 10			
	SMITH, WATSON & BRIGGS SOLD				
25	7,620	5 60	34	8,320	5 40
	200	4 65	56	14,350	5 50
29	7,250	5 50	12	12,000	5 60
14	14,470	5 12	18	5,130	5 37
1	1,550	5 40	37	Uncl.	5 50
7	650	5 60	87	19,520	5 10
2	2,000	5 62	20	4,800	5 00
	HAZLEWOOD & BLACKSTOCK SOLD				
74	24,120	5 50	97	12,700	5 00
	400	4 65	56	13,000	5 00
38	10,400	5 50	12	2,500	5 00
	200	4 75	94	19,000	5 00
	HEDGES, HUFF & CO SOLD				
48	12,900	5 10	1	4,520	5 2
97	27,240	5 20	60	11,850	5 2
131	32,840	5 25	62	12,110	5 2½
28	7,000	5 37½	22	4,140	5 5
114	24,670	5 15	18	13,770	5 1
72	13,350	5 12½	63	11,600	5 0
29	8,010	5 60	84	11,250	5 0½
	SADLER, HAVENS & CO. SOLD				
49	12,920	5 10	39	7,800	5 25
32	7,900	5 12½	97	20,000	5 30
210	52,270	5 15	107	23,450	5 20
79	15,060	5 20	29	21,150	5 25
	HOLMES, LAFFERTY & CO. SOLD				
No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
1	1,250	$ 5	81	8,230	6
83	7,090	6 00	16	13,150	7 35
1	1,000	6 10	1	1,010	7 50
75	per head.	7 00	12	11,300	7 50
	7,200	per head.	7 50	per head.	7 50
	SMITH, WATSON & BRIGGS SOLD				
193	15,980	6 65	168	14,040	7 25
179	15,090	7 00	150	13,450	7 30
1	8,040	6 75	92	6,440	6 25
1	1,000	6 80	29	2,280	6 25
	HAZLEWOOD & BLACKSTOCK SOLD				
161	13,770	7 12½		13,350	7 50
178	12,910	7 25		per head	7 50
201	19,350	7 50	109	9,800	6 50
96	7,310	7 40		29,100	7 50
	HEDGES, HUFF & CO SOLD				
69	6,650	7 50	33	2,100	6 65
221	22,080	7 37½		10,000	7 25
	SADLER, HAVENS & CO. SOLD				
189	13,750	5 25	92	7,800	5 62
109	9,040	5 50		10,000	5 25
	H. ERISMAN BOUGHT				
148	17,010	6 85	105	8,370	6 35
185	12,580	6 80	184	13,530	6 25
242	21,240	7 15	81	15,960	6 60
184	16,020	7 25	172	15,470	7 10
156	17,670	7 30	158	16,200	7 15
81	8,230	8 00	167	14,690	7 20
139	12,750	7 35	178	17,350	7 25
158	15,310	7 40	178	15,850	7 30
158	15,310	7 50	178	15,850	7 35
158	15,310	7 60	178	17,500	7 45
168	16,100	7 70	178	16,150	7 50
178	18,020	7 80	159	14,170	7 90
178	18,020	7 90	178	13,220	8 00
178	19,350	7 50	249	23,490	7 60
267	22,110	7 65	251	22,080	7 60

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, February 8, 1872. }

REMARKS.—The oil men report the market in a very demoralized condition. They report no buyers here. This, however, has been the feeling of the market for some time. An improvement, by way of variety, would no doubt be very acceptable.

Crude.

We were unable to obtain quotations for our market. Dealers, for reasons no doubt satisfactory to themselves, refuse to furnish the necessary information. Parker's oil is quoted at $3 70; Foster's at $3 80 ₱ barrel. For prices in the oil regions, see dispatches.

Refined.

The market was dull; prices very uncertain. Spot 21½c; February 22c; March 22¾@22¾c; April 23c; for oil delivered in the city, 1c ₱ gallon more.

[By Western Union Telegraph.]

TITUSVILLE, February 7.—The *Herald* says: The market on the upper creek to-day was firm but dull and unchanged. Following are the

SALES:

200 bbls upper creek, Church run spot	$2 85½
1,000 bbls upper creek, regular	3 80
1,000 bbls upper creek, first 3 months	3 95
2,000 bbls upper creek, spot	4 10
2,000 bbls upper creek, spot	4 07½
2,000 bbls upper creek, spot	4 02
2,000 bbls upper creek, first 3 months	4 40
500 bbls lower creek, spot	4 00

NEW YORK, February 7.—Closing of 6th.—Market dull and quotations unsettled; sales of a cargo of 8,500 bbls at 23½c; crude 12½c; refined 23½c. Philadelphia d-livery—market quiet and prices nominal; refined 22c; sales 5,000 bbls on private terms; cases 28a28½c.

OIL CITY, February 7.—Ordinary on lower road held at 4c 95at; 47 grade at 5c; 44 at 4½c; 42 at 4c.

TITUSVILLE, February 7.—Market very dull; spot $2 80 @ 3. Next quarter $3 80@3 95.

PETROLEUM CENTER, February 7.—Market unchanged at $3 80.

ROUSEVILLE, February 7.—Market quiet and steady at $3 95.

PHILADELPHIA, February 7.—Market quiet; S. W. 26c; crude 12c; cases 21¾@22½c; February 22c; March 22¾@23c.

Pacific and Atlantic Line.]

ROUSEVILLE, February 7.—Market quiet and firm at $3 90 @ 4.

TITUSVILLE, February 7.—Market quiet at $3 80.

PHILADELPHIA, January 7.—Market nominal; refined 25½c; crude but little doing.

PHILADELPHIA, February 7.—Market 22c; March 22¾c; April 23¼c; crude 14½c.

PETROLEUM CENTER, February 7.—Market dull at $3 90a4 00; no sales reported.

TIDIOUTE, February 7.—Market quiet but firm at $3 85.

PARKERS LANDING, February 7.—Market very quiet and dull at $3 75.

Printing Cloths.

The Providence *Journal* says: Market strong. Cloths are held at 8c; buyers offer 7½c. The following are the sales for the week:

1,000 pieces, 64x64, 8c.
15,000 pieces, 64x64, 7½c, 30 days interest after ten, spot cloths, and early delivery.
16,000 pieces, 64x64, 7½c, 30 days interest after ten, spot cloths.
12,000 pieces, 64x64, 7½c, 30 days, spot cloths.
37,000 pieces.

PITTSBURGH WEEKLY REVIEW.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, February 8, 1872. }

REMARKS.—It will be seen that there has been a sharp advance in iron and nails, a carefully corrected list of which will be found below. There have also been a few changes in drugs, high wines, copper, leather and chemicals. We omit glass card rates, as there has been an advance on certain descriptions, but the revised schedule is not yet fully prepared. Trade is all that could be expected for the season. The weather is cold and the rivers still frozen, which has a depressing effect upon trade generally. Below will be found the ruling rates of the market.

PITTSBURGH DRY GOODS MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, February 8, 1872. }

BROWN COTTONS.

Anchor A	13½c	Idaho	12 c
Eagle	13½c	Duquesne	12 c
Conewago	13 c	Magnolia	11 c

PRINTS.

Merrimacks	11½c	Richmond	11½c
Spragues	11½c	Pacifics	11½c
Americans	11½c	Mourning	11 c
Conestogas	11½c	Garner	11 c
Allen Pinks	12 c		

GINGHAMS.

Lancaster	13 (Glasgow
Bates	13 c

DELAINES.

Hamilton	20c	Manchester	20c
Pacific	20c		

TICKINGS.

Whitaker	40c	Conestoga Medal	22c
Portsmouth	33c	Pennsylvania	18c
Roanoke	28c		

LUMBER MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, February 8, 1872. }

UNPLANED LUMBER.

Clear, ₱ M	$65 00
First common	55 00
Second common	40 00
Third common	25 00
Sheeting	20 00
Hemlock joists and scantling	20 00

PLANED LUMBER.

First common, ₱ M	$60 00
Clear	70 00
Flooring boards	35 00
Partition boards	43 00
Shelving on both sides	35 00
Shelving on one side	33 00
Plow and drop weatherboarding	37 00
Moulded weatherboarding	37 00
Rabbited weatherboarding	35 00
Half-inch patent planed	25 00
Half-inch patent unplaned	20 00
Twelve-inch vertical, with stripes	33 00
Oak and yellow pine flooring boards	45 00

SHINGLES AND LATH.

No. 1, 18-inch, sawed	$ 2 00
No. 2, 18-inch, sawed	1 50
No. 1, 16-inch, shaved	6 00
No. 1, 16-inch, sawed	4 50
Lath	1 50

CORDAGE MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, February 8, 1872. }

The following are the card rates:

Manilla rope	21¾
Manilla rope, twelve thread	22½
Manilla rope, six and nine thread	23½
Manilla rope, three and four strand	24
Manilla hawser, tarred	22
Manilla ash twine, tarred	22
Manilla ash twine, tarred	22
Manilla bay, shave and leather twine	25
Sisal rope	20½
Sisal ash twine, tarred	20
Sisal bay, shave and leather twine	20
American hackled hemp tarred rope	19
American hackled hemp white rope	20
Russia hemp

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1872.

TERMS.

One copy, per year.....$2 00
In clubs of twenty per year.....1 50
One copy gratis to the getter up of the club.

Wanted.

Copies of the following dates of the WEEKLY COMMERCIAL, to complete our file:

Two copies March 11, 1871.
Two copies April 15, 1871.
Two copies September 30, 1871.
Two copies October 1, 1871.
Two copies November 25, 1871.

THE Philadelphia *Post*, which supported Col. MCCLURE with courage and ability, during the late contest in the Fourth Senatorial District, sums up the matter in the following epigrammatic way:

"Col. McClure had it sure,
In spite of the pugilistics.
But Mr. Gray in another way
Had managed it by statistics."

This is not the loftiest kind of verse, certainly; but there is a species of composition of which it is sometimes remarked that it contains "more truth than poetry." It is possible the above may belong to this sort of literature.

THE New York *Times* considers it settled that "no reduction of present duties on articles coming in competition with American industry is likely to receive the Executive sanction, assuming that such reduction, in the interest of Free Trade, to the prejudice of domestic labor, is to be seriously entertained by the present Congress." For his pronounced views on the Tariff question, General GRANT is entitled to the thanks of the country.

DURING last month the public debt was further reduced $5,633,511, decreasing the total remaining indebtedness, principal and interest, to $2,354,416,900. These figures tell their own story without any comment, and show that notwithstanding the occasional mistakes of the Administration, and lapses of some of the public officials, yet as a general rule economy and integrity pervade nearly every department of the Government. With over fifty thousand persons in the public service it would be extraordinary if there were not now and then an instance of corruption and dishonesty. It has been so with every Administration since the organization of the Government, and will in all probability so continue in the future as long as human nature remains what it is.

A CONSIDERABLE number of amendments to the Constitution of the United States have been proposed in various quarters lately, but among them all there has not been one having for its purpose the checking of the present insane ambition of men for public representative positions, whether qualified or not. It is therefore respectfully suggested that somebody who possesses the necessary nerve, should propose the adoption of an amendment embracing the principle ordained in the ancient Constitution of the Locrians, which provided that any person offering himself as a candidate should stand with a rope around his neck while the vote was being taken. If defeated he was instantly strangled, while if successful the rope was removed and he was accorded the usual honors and privileges of Senatorship. The Republic, it may be added, existed for two hundred and fifty years, on which the rule must have worked comparatively well. The incorporation of some such amendment into our own Constitution might have a good effect; indeed, it is hardly possible it could have a bad one, if coupled with a plan which should practically insure the purity of the ballot box.

WHILE it is not questioned that the great majority of the savings banks of the country are perfectly sound and reliable, yet the disclosures of which the late failure of several of these institutions in New York have shown the present system to be capable, has—as was to have been expected—given rise to considerable discussion throughout the country concerning the desirability of the establishment of government Savings Banks in connection with the Post-office, as in Great Britain. It is argued that the majority of those persons who have occasion to make use of savings banks, have no means of discriminating between the stable and the unsound; and that, therefore, the safe protection of the savings of the working classes calls for the adoption of the plan. At all events the knowledge which we possess in this country of its workings in England show it to have succeeded admirably. At least it cannot be called an untried experiment, and it is probable that hardly any better or more practical service could be rendered by Congress to the great masses of our population than in bringing about the establishment of the system.

THE medical diplomas issued for a consideration by certain so-called medical colleges of this State, to foreigners and persons not qualified, do not appear to be thought very highly of in England, where a druggist was recently fined a hundred dollars by a magistrate for falsely assuming the title of M. D., although he had one of these diplomas in his pocket. The charge against him was that he had sent out bills for professional attendance with the letters M. D. attached to his name, and had the same title printed underneath his name on a lamp in front of his door. For the defense it was shown that he had received a diploma of "The Medical University of Pennsylvania," and it was contended by his counsel that even if the college had no power to grant the diploma, yet if the defendant believed it had the charge must fall to the ground. The magistrate took a different view of the matter, however, and fined him in the sum of twenty pounds and costs. It is to be hoped the State Senate Committee appointed last week for the purpose of examining into the facts connected with the alleged traffic in these diplomas, will sift the subject to the bottom, and that if necessary the Legislature will revoke the charters of such institutions as are proved to thus bringing the good name of the Commonwealth into contempt and disrepute.

GEN. W. S. HILLYER, of Gen. GRANT's staff, was one of the most recent witnesses examined by the New York Custom House investigating committee. He testified that it was Gen. GRANT's wish that no member of his staff should engage in anything connected with the Custom House, and that he did not wish to be considered as recommending LEET for Custom House patronage. It will be remembered, however, that LEET brought to Collector GRINNELL a letter from Gen. GRANT strongly recommending him as a first rate man, which letter LEET regarded as a "blank commission" and secured for him the best "plum" there was. Here is a portion of Gen. HILLYER's testimony:

"I got from Leet himself the knowledge that Mr. Cameron offered him $2,500 per year, a house, horse, and carriages, if he would become Cameron's partner in the iron business in Pennsylvania; at that time Leet had nothing but his army pay, and intended to retire to private life; I had the interview with Gen. Grant in regard to the labor contract at Leet's suggestion, the President spoke to me about having given Leet a letter of introduction, and expressed his aversion to having any officer of his staff connected with the New York Custom House; I introduced the conversation by stating to the President the Leet had made a competitor for certain patronage of the Custom House; what patronage I forgot; Col. Leet was anxious to remove the President's disapprobation."

As we read the testimony LEET appears in anything but a favorable light. The committee have decided to examine Generals PORTER and BABCOCK in Washington, notwithstanding their request to be examined in New York.

THE anti-protectionists receive no comfort from Gen. GRANT. All his utterances prove that he entertains distinct views from which he is not likely to recede. For instance, to the delegation of iron manufacturers who waited on him a few days ago, he said: "A reduction of duties on articles which we could manufacture has but one tendency, namely, that of depressing industry and injuring the working classes, and reducing them to the condition of the pauper labor of Europe. As I understand the policy of Congress, articles not produced in this country, and entering into general consumption, should be admitted free of duty, while duties on those in competition with our manufacturers should not be reduced." At the same time, Secretary BOUTWELL and Speaker BLAINE subscribed substantially to the same views. Among those who called on the President, Secretary and Speaker were a committee of the National Association of Bar Iron Manufacturers: JAMES I. BENNETT, President; THOS. DUNLAP, Secretary; Messrs. BAKER, of Philadelphia, J. E. WALKER, ERASTUS CORNING & Co., of New York; TUCKERMAN & MULLIGAN, of Saugerties, N. Y.; CAMPBELL B. HERRON, of Pittsburgh; GEO. REES, of New Castle; OLIVER WILLIAMS, of Catasauqua; JOSEPH WHARTON and the Hon. DANIEL J. MORRELL, of the National Industrial League; SAMUEL J. REEVES, President of the American Iron and Steel Association, &c. Notwithstanding the efforts of the free trade reformers, there are gratifying indications that Congress, in whatever it does, will not materially depart from this line of policy.

MR. GEORGE W. CURTIS, President of the Civil Service Commission, may be fairly supposed to speak the views of the President regarding that question. When, therefore, we find him contending that Civil Service Reform is "a Republican measure" called for by the country, sanctioned by Congress, and approved by the Executive, we are authorized to believe that Gen. GRANT does not yield his position on account of the course of Senators and Members who are proving themselves recreant to all their professions by arraying themselves in opposition to this reform. These gentlemen Mr. CURTIS deals a hard blow when he says:

"The present opposition of Congress is of various kinds. Some honorable gentlemen rode into the chamber along an incline plane of promises and pledges, and the loss of importance which would follow a loss of patronage would be disagreeable, if not fatal. The chief business of such members is 'running the district,' not doing their legislative duty; and nothing could seem to them so exquisitely visionary, impracticable, and ridiculous as a proposition that they should be merely consulted like other citizens in regard to appointments, instead of dictating and controlling them as they do now."

Mr. CURTIS says that "unless the President is profoundly mistaken, the intelligent public opinion of the country prefers that appointments to the minor offices should be made because of fitness not of favor." Furthermore, that the President's purpose in adopting the plan recommended is "to recover the constitutional independence of his office," and "if Congress does not like the President's method of securing that independence, let it make a better method law; and undoubtedly the President will gladly execute it."

THE JESUITS AND THE GERMAN EMPIRE.

One of the most interesting subjects in European politics at present is the contest for some time going on in Germany between the new Empire and the Church of Rome. The subject is interesting in itself, and it is interesting as it affords an illustration of the essential vitality of the order of Jesuits. Less than one hundred years ago, in 1773, suppressed by Pope CLEMENT XIV, and subsequently expelled from almost every country in Europe from which they had not been expelled before, the Jesuits are now everywhere flourishing apparently more than ever, and have the Romish Church under complete control. They undoubtedly inspired the late Council and all the most important measures by which the Catholic world has been recently agitated, and they are the leaders in the struggle for influence in the German Empire which the greatest German politicians are resisting with such unfaltering resolution.

At length the anti-Jesuit movement has assumed the form of a powerful party, who call for the expulsion of the Order from the Empire. Let it be distinctly understood that the movement referred to is not exclusively a Protestant movement. The "Central Committee in Cologne" was *the* first to get up a petition, very numerously signed, in which the *Reichstag* was implored to declare the necessity of banishing the Jesuit Fathers from the German dominions. Since then "The Committee of the German Protestant Union" has issued an address, in which it is affirmed that the organs of the Jesuit order threaten the existence of the modern state, and, indeed, of all governments; the Fathers, it is alleged, have vast means at their command, and that in their endeavor to effect an artificial restoration of the middle ages, they rely upon the fanaticism of the multitude stirred up by the clergy, upon the secret cooperation of the smaller courts, and upon the desire of the wealthy and aristocratic classes to avoid a new conflict. In view of these considerations, the Committee argue that it is the urgent duty of all friends of justice, freedom, and the State to take note of these enemies of all true liberty, and to prepare the people for the contest which lies before them. Finally, it is declared that when the Jesuit Order shall be again buried will the social and political atmosphere become pure, and light shine brightly in the world.

It is already manifest that immense pressure will be brought to bear upon the next German Parliament in favor of the harsh measure recommended by these committees. What the result will be it is too soon to foretell. Most probably, however, the Parliament will decline to take a step which would be plainly inconsistent with the liberal principles which are daily becoming more and more prevalent in Germany. Journals decidedly hostile to the Jesuits denounce the policy of banishment as equivalent to a confession of want of faith in the power of German culture and illumination. In times of ignorance and superstition Jesuit influence, it is admitted, worked mischief in many ways, and produced the Thirty Years War, for instance, by which the evil effects have only lately ceased to be felt, but against the panoply of German science and the highly developed intellectual life of to-day, it is believed that the Busybodies can accomplish no permanent harm, and to exile the meddling Fathers would be a mere betrayal of conscious weakness. Then, it is also pointed out that the campaign prepared in the Council against the spiritual life of the Germans has already proved itself a fiasco, and that continued freedom to fight out the battle is alone necessary to cover the assailants with general contempt. To banish them would make them martyrs, and might transmute contempt into sympathy. It may, however, reasonably be doubted whether the argument is quite applicable in the present circumstances and condition of the German Empire. Facts prove that the most thorough culture and the most profound science afford no sufficient protection or charm against the fascinations of the religious system of which the Jesuits are champions. In spite of their many enemies it is also notorious that among a numerous class of Catholics the Jesuits are regarded as "the flower of the priesthood," either because their faults are not detected by admirers, or because their faults are forgiven for the sake of their virtues. The German Empire is not yet consolidated; in the Catholic portions of it there is notoriously much dissatisfaction with the constitution, and to many members of the *Reichsrath* it may appear inexpedient to tolerateso many energetic, ingenious and unscrupulous sources of discontent, who may manifest a preach rebellion in the name of the Lord, or of the Lord's vicegerent, which amounts to nearly the same thing. Indeed, from present indications there is nothing absurd in the fear entertained by some patriotic and intelligent Germans that, if not in the reign of WILLIAM, at farthest in the reign of his son, the new German Empire may suffer disruption through the same Papal agency which proved fatal to the first.

THE British Parliament assembles to-day, and to-night's cable dispatches will probably bring us authentic information concerning the alleged determination of the English government to withdraw from the Geneva arbitration unless the case of the United States is reformed. In many respects the present session of Parliament will be one of the most important ever held. In addition to the Ballot bill, the Scotch Education measure, the liquor licensing question and other important subjects that call for immediate legislation, Ireland is expecting which there is likely to be a wide difference of opinion even among the liberals themselves, the conservatives, under the lead of DISRAELI and Earl DERBY, appear to have determined to fight the GLADSTONE party on almost every measure to be brought forward. Nor is there any doubt that while Mr. GLADSTONE has tried the temper of his own followers to a considerable extent, he has also afforded the opposition a series of opportunities of which it will be strange indeed if they fail to take advantage. The *Times*, too, has recently exhibited signs of rebellion against a continuance of his policy, and even the *Spectator*—one of the stanchest liberal organs in the country—has shown a disposition to break away from its allegiance, charging that the administration had been parsimonious in its economy, and unjust with respect to individuals, in dismissing large numbers of laborers, clerks and other persons holding offices under government, some in positions of high trust, who have been cajoled or intimidated into the surrender of their offices. Considerable capital has also been made out of Mr. GLADSTONE's recent absurd and ridiculous order suppressing certain satirical allusions to himself in a pantomime performed at one of the minor London theatres, besides which there are a dozen other matters on which not a little dissatisfaction exists among the members of his own party. How most of these questions it is likely that a strict party vote would result in a declaration of confidence in the government, but it is nevertheless clear that Mr. GLADSTONE has a most difficult task to perform in reconciling the conflicting views and opinions of his supporters, and holding the Opposition in check. In one word, England would appear to be on the verge of a great political crisis, which only the most careful and sagacious management will be competent to avert.

THE Palace Car system is anything but objectionable to passengers who prefer to pay an extra sum for extra accommodations; but the danger is that, unless limited and kept within the competitive line, they will be charged into an outrageous extortion. The subject, therefore, properly comes within the scope of reform in our State Legislature, though no man can tell what they are "going to do about it."

So says the New York *Herald*. The railroad whose managers will first recognize and correct the abuses growing out of the Palace Car Monopoly will earn the thanks of the traveling public, and secure increased business as a consequence. It cannot be disputed, for it is a grievous fact, that persons who have no reasonable cause for taking sleeping cars, or for any cause do not take them, have to submit to shabby treatment. Such passengers have come to be looked upon as second class and treated accordingly. We take the liberty to call the attention of the managers of the Pennsylvania Central to the subject as one eminently worthy of it.

THE latest piece of sarcasm is the remark of Col. QUAY, that Gray's election is "generally attributed to the unwavering, zealous and enthusiastic support by Col. Forney and his *Press*."

THE TAX ON CORPORATIONS.

In the late message of His Excellency, Governor GEARY, occurs the following passage:

"The taxes received during the last four years from corporation stocks have annually exceeded one million dollars, and are now about the one-sixth part of the revenue of the State."

That so large a portion of the taxes of the Commonwealth is levied upon the property of corporations, which pays, in addition to all the taxes imposed upon similar property held by individuals, the sum of *one million dollars per annum*, is not referred to by His Excellency to point out its enormity, or to recommend the abolition of the laws imposing them, but rather to felicitate the law making power that so heavy a burden has been imposed upon those who are in many cases least able to bear it, and to suggest additional laws to prevent the possible escape of any of the victims.

It has long been a favorite policy of the Democratic party to *tax corporations out of existence*, but it has remained for a Republican Legislature—that of 1868—to find out the successful way to achieve that end, and it is the boast of a Republican Governor that the result is in process of practical accomplishment.

The taxes are not generally understood, except by those who have had them to pay, and they are as follows:

First. A tax on capital stock, measured by the dividend paid, if any, thus: If a dividend has been paid during the year, the amount thereof must be returned under oath, and the tax is levied at the rate of one-half mill on each dollar of the capital stock for each one per cent. of dividend paid during the year. This tax is equal to and *is measured by* five per cent. of the dividend.

If no dividend has been paid during the year, then the tax is three mills on each dollar of the appraised value, under oath, of the capital stock. The law imposing this tax was enacted in 1863.

Second. As if the tax on capital stock, equal to five per cent. of the dividend, were not a sufficient burden, the Legislature, in 1868, imposed another tax of three per cent. on the net earnings of every corporation, regardless of what use was made of the net earnings, or whether divided or not. Thus it will be seen that, if all the net earnings of any corporation are paid out in dividends, the State takes *eight per cent. of the earnings in addition to all the taxes* on the property of the corporation, imposed upon individuals.

Let us consider the matter under three heads: First, Its necessity. The Governor's message shows that the public debt of the Commonwealth amounted on November 30th, 1871, to.....$28,980,071 75
And that the cash in Treasury and assets in sinking fund were.....10,876,808 50

Leaving balance of debt unprovided for.....$18,105,263 14
Also that there was paid of the public debt during the year, or, at least during the year ending November 30, 1871.....$2,131,590 17

At this rate of reduction, assuming the average rate of interest to be five and a half per cent., and the interest saved by the reduction to be added to the sinking fund, the entire debt would be *extinguished in seven years!* Who pretends that this is necessary? What individual with a pretension to statesmanship claims that it is even desirable? If it is not, then, a *necessity*, let us consider: Second, Its policy. The heavy capitalist, having his funds placed beyond danger, to invest in a coal property, or his half million to build a rolling mill, *does not pay these taxes.*

The two, three or four men of means, who can invest twenty, thirty or fifty thousand dollars each, in any business, form a firm or partnership, and *they do not pay these taxes.*

But the men of moderate means, who, having accumulated a hundred, a thousand or five thousand dollars, and wish to invest it safely and profitably, the widow whose means are limited, the inventor which must be paid to produce the Thirty Years War, for instance, by which the evil effects have only lately ceased to be felt, but against the panoply of German science and the highly developed intellectual life of to-day, it is believed that the Busybodies can accomplish no permanent harm, and to exile the meddling Fathers would be a mere betrayal of conscious weakness. Then, it is also pointed out that the campaign prepared in the Council against the spiritual life of the Germans has already proved itself a fiasco, and that continued freedom to fight out the battle is alone necessary to cover the assailants with general contempt. To banish them would make them martyrs, and might transmute contempt into sympathy. It may, however, reasonably be doubted whether the argument is quite applicable in the present circumstances and condition of the German Empire. Facts prove that the most thorough culture and the most profound science afford no sufficient protection or charm against the fascinations of the religious system of which the Jesuits are champions. In spite of their many enemies it is also notorious that among a numerous class of Catholics the Jesuits are regarded as "the flower of the priesthood," either because their faults are not detected by admirers, or because their faults are forgiven for the sake of their virtues. The German Empire is not yet consolidated; in the Catholic portions of it there is notoriously much dissatisfaction with the constitution, and to many members of the *Reichsrath* it may appear inexpedient to tolerateso many energetic, ingenious and unscrupulous sources of discontent, who may manifest a preach rebellion in the name of the Lord, or of the Lord's vicegerent, which amounts to nearly the same thing. Indeed, from present indications there is nothing absurd in the fear entertained by some patriotic and intelligent Germans that, if not in the reign of WILLIAM, at farthest in the reign of his son, the new German Empire may suffer disruption through the same Papal agency which proved fatal to the first.

A PARALLEL.

It would be unwise, we fancy, either confidently to reject or confidently to accept the telegraphic statement that M. THIERS has expressed despair of the Republic. On the one hand, to ascribe such a remark to the President might naturally enough seem either to a Bonapartist or an Orleanist a happy invention as a means of influencing public opinion within France, or of manufacturing public sentiment in foreign countries. Similar efforts of genius are constantly making their appearance. On the other hand, though the statement may be a pure fiction it is at once recognized as a plausible fiction, as just such a confession as under the circumstances of the time and in the temper produced by them M. THIERS may without extravagance be supposed to have made. The declaration of his purpose to seek refuge and quiet in some foreign country seems equally characteristic. M. THIERS was never patient under the infliction of censure or even moderate criticism; great age and health failing under the onerous duties and irksome responsibilities of his office have not increased his resignation; and while suffering a burden which in common decency even his political enemies ought to have striven to make lighter, the old statesman has been assailed with a rancorous malignity hardly equalled in an American presidential canvass. Not only his "experience" is scouted as having taught him nothing, and his wisdom laughed at as being no better than folly, but his honor and good faith are impugned. To any one who considers the relative prostration of the country and the manifold perils which hang over its immediate future, and then watches the attitude of the various French parties toward each other, THIERS's reported despair appears natural enough.

Even the *Courrier des Etats-Unis*, which has all along taken a cheerful, or at least hopeful, view of the prospects of France, at length regards its future with undisguised dismay. In the present "agony of Mexico," it sees a picture of what France may soon become. No admission or avowal could so clearly indicate the despondency of the writer as the sketch which he gives of the actual condition of the Latin republic on our southern border, with the practical application of the "providential lesson" to his own country. "After the last election, which renewed the powers of JUAREZ," the *Courrier* says, "people might have believed for a moment, that strengthened by this consecration, he would succeed in mastering and controlling the ambitions which aspired to supplant him. But it was to misunderstand that unhappy land to suppose for an instant that the miserable intriguers who are rending it, would feel bound to pause before the verdict of the country and renounce their pretensions by submitting to the principle of national sovereignty." Mexico, he says, would be fortunate indeed if the factions which are there struggling for power were contending in behalf of any principle whatever. In many lands revolution is in a chronic state, in which parties, tenacious and implacable, are frenzied even to the loss of moral sense. The prevailing passions have for pretext some idea, some theory, true or false; the public good, or at least some great material, or philosophical, or political interest is invoked as the ground of action. In Mexico there is nothing of the sort, but mere personal impulses or motives, vanity, avarice, envy, to invest in a coal property, or his half million to build a rolling mill, *does not pay these taxes.*

The two, three or four men of means, who can invest twenty, thirty or fifty thousand dollars each, in any business, form a firm or partnership, and *they do not pay these taxes.*

But the men of moderate means, who, having accumulated a hundred, a thousand or five thousand dollars, and wish to invest it safely and profitably, the widow whose means are limited, the inventor which must be paid to produce the Thirty Years War, for instance, by which the evil effects have only lately ceased to be felt, but against the panoply of German science and the highly developed intellectual life of to-day, it is believed that the Busybodies can accomplish no permanent harm, and to exile the meddling Fathers would be a mere betrayal of conscious weakness. Then, it is also pointed out that the campaign prepared in the Council against the spiritual life of the Germans has already proved itself a fiasco, and that continued freedom to fight out the battle is alone necessary to cover the assailants with general contempt. To banish them would make them martyrs, and might transmute contempt into sympathy. It may, however, reasonably be doubted whether the argument is quite applicable in the present circumstances and condition of the German Empire. Facts prove that the most thorough culture and the most profound science afford no sufficient protection or charm against the fascinations of the religious system of which the Jesuits are champions. In spite of their many enemies it is also notorious that among a numerous class of Catholics the Jesuits are regarded as "the flower of the priesthood," either because their faults are not detected by admirers, or because their faults are forgiven for the sake of their virtues. The German Empire is not yet consolidated; in the Catholic portions of it there is notoriously much dissatisfaction with the constitution, and to many members of the *Reichsrath* it may appear inexpedient to tolerateso many energetic, ingenious and unscrupulous sources of discontent, who may manifest a preach rebellion in the name of the Lord, or of the Lord's vicegerent, which amounts to nearly the same thing. Indeed, from present indications there is nothing absurd in the fear entertained by some patriotic and intelligent Germans that, if not in the reign of WILLIAM, at farthest in the reign of his son, the new German Empire may suffer disruption through the same Papal agency which proved fatal to the first.

THE British Parliament assembles to-day, and to-night's cable dispatches will probably bring us authentic information concerning the alleged determination of the English government to withdraw from the Geneva arbitration unless the case of the United States is reformed. In many respects the present session of Parliament will be one of the most important ever held. In addition to the Ballot bill, the Scotch Education measure, the liquor licensing question and other important subjects that call for immediate legislation, Ireland is expecting which there is likely to be a wide difference of opinion even among the liberals themselves, the conservatives, under the lead of DISRAELI and Earl DERBY, appear to have determined to fight the GLADSTONE party on almost every measure to be brought forward. Nor is there any doubt that while Mr. GLADSTONE has tried the temper of his own followers to a considerable extent, he has also afforded the opposition a series of opportunities of which it will be strange indeed if they fail to take advantage. The *Times*, too, has recently exhibited signs of rebellion against a continuance of his policy, and even the *Spectator*—one of the stanchest liberal organs in the country—has shown a disposition to break away from its allegiance, charging that the administration had been parsimonious in its economy, and unjust with respect to individuals, in dismissing large numbers of laborers, clerks and other persons holding offices under government, some in positions of high trust, who have been cajoled or intimidated into the surrender of their offices. Considerable capital has also been made out of Mr. GLADSTONE's recent absurd and ridiculous order suppressing certain satirical allusions to himself in a pantomime performed at one of the minor London theatres, besides which there are a dozen other matters on which not a little dissatisfaction exists among the members of his own party. How most of these questions it is likely that a strict party vote would result in a declaration of confidence in the government, but it is nevertheless clear that Mr. GLADSTONE has a most difficult task to perform in reconciling the conflicting views and opinions of his supporters, and holding the Opposition in check. In one word, England would appear to be on the verge of a great political crisis, which only the most careful and sagacious management will be competent to avert.

THE Palace Car system is anything but objectionable to passengers who prefer to pay an extra sum for extra accommodations; but the danger is that, unless limited and kept within the competitive line, they will be charged into an outrageous extortion. The subject, therefore, properly comes within the scope of reform in our State Legislature, though no man can tell what they are "going to do about it."

So says the New York *Herald*. The railroad whose managers will first recognize and correct the abuses growing out of the Palace Car Monopoly will earn the thanks of the traveling public, and secure increased business as a consequence. It cannot be disputed, for it is a grievous fact, that persons who have no reasonable cause for taking sleeping cars, or for any cause do not take them, have to submit to shabby treatment. Such passengers have come to be looked upon as second class and treated accordingly. We take the liberty to call the attention of the managers of the Pennsylvania Central to the subject as one eminently worthy of it.

THE latest piece of sarcasm is the remark of Col. QUAY, that Gray's election is "generally attributed to the unwavering, zealous and enthusiastic support by Col. Forney and his *Press*."

THE TAX ON CORPORATIONS.

In the late message of His Excellency, Governor GEARY, occurs the following passage:

"The taxes received during the last four years from corporation stocks have annually exceeded one million dollars, and are now about the one-sixth part of the revenue of the State."

That so large a portion of the taxes of the Commonwealth is levied upon the property of corporations, which pays, in addition to all the taxes imposed upon similar property held by individuals, the sum of *one million dollars per annum*, is not referred to by His Excellency to point out its enormity, or to recommend the abolition of the laws imposing them, but rather to felicitate the law making power that so heavy a burden has been imposed upon those who are in many cases least able to bear it, and to suggest additional laws to prevent the possible escape of any of the victims.

It has long been a favorite policy of the Democratic party to *tax corporations out of existence*, but it has remained for a Republican Legislature—that of 1868—to find out the successful way to achieve that end, and it is the boast of a Republican Governor that the result is in process of practical accomplishment.

The taxes are not generally understood, except by those who have had them to pay, and they are as follows:

First. A tax on capital stock, measured by the dividend paid, if any, thus: If a dividend has been paid during the year, the amount thereof must be returned under oath, and the tax is levied at the rate of one-half mill on each dollar of the capital stock for each one per cent. of dividend paid during the year. This tax is equal to and *is measured by* five per cent. of the dividend.

If no dividend has been paid during the year, then the tax is three mills on each dollar of the appraised value, under oath, of the capital stock. The law imposing this tax was enacted in 1863.

Second. As if the tax on capital stock, equal to five per cent. of the dividend, were not a sufficient burden, the Legislature, in 1868, imposed another tax of three per cent. on the net earnings of every corporation, regardless of what use was made of the net earnings, or whether divided or not. Thus it will be seen that, if all the net earnings of any corporation are paid out in dividends, the State takes *eight per cent. of the earnings in addition to all the taxes* on the property of the corporation, imposed upon individuals.

Let us consider the matter under three heads: First, Its necessity. The Governor's message shows that the public debt of the Commonwealth amounted on November 30th, 1871, to.....$28,980,071 75
And that the cash in Treasury and assets in sinking fund were.....10,876,808 50

Leaving balance of debt unprovided for.....$18,105,263 14
Also that there was paid of the public debt during the year, or, at least during the year ending November 30, 1871.....$2,131,590 17

At this rate of reduction, assuming the average rate of interest to be five and a half per cent., and the interest saved by the reduction to be added to the sinking fund, the entire debt would be *extinguished in seven years!* Who pretends that this is necessary? What individual with a pretension to statesmanship claims that it is even desirable? If it is not, then, a *necessity*, let us consider: Second, Its policy. The heavy capitalist, having his funds placed beyond danger, to invest in a coal property, or his half million to build a rolling mill, *does not pay these taxes.*

The two, three or four men of means, who can invest twenty, thirty or fifty thousand dollars each, in any business, form a firm or partnership, and *they do not pay these taxes.*

But the men of moderate means, who, having accumulated a hundred, a thousand or five thousand dollars, and wish to invest it safely and profitably, the widow whose means are limited, the inventor which must be paid to produce the Thirty Years War, for instance, by which the evil effects have only lately ceased to be felt, but against the panoply of German science and the highly developed intellectual life of to-day, it is believed that the Busybodies can accomplish no permanent harm, and to exile the meddling Fathers would be a mere betrayal of conscious weakness. Then, it is also pointed out that the campaign prepared in the Council against the spiritual life of the Germans has already proved itself a fiasco, and that continued freedom to fight out the battle is alone necessary to cover the assailants with general contempt. To banish them would make them martyrs, and might transmute contempt into sympathy. It may, however, reasonably be doubted whether the argument is quite applicable in the present circumstances and condition of the German Empire. Facts prove that the most thorough culture and the most profound science afford no sufficient protection or charm against the fascinations of the religious system of which the Jesuits are champions. In spite of their many enemies it is also notorious that among a numerous class of Catholics the Jesuits are regarded as "the flower of the priesthood," either because their faults are not detected by admirers, or because their faults are forgiven for the sake of their virtues. The German Empire is not yet consolidated; in the Catholic portions of it there is notoriously much dissatisfaction with the constitution, and to many members of the *Reichsrath* it may appear inexpedient to tolerateso many energetic, ingenious and unscrupulous sources of discontent, who may manifest a preach rebellion in the name of the Lord, or of the Lord's vicegerent, which amounts to nearly the same thing. Indeed, from present indications there is nothing absurd in the fear entertained by some patriotic and intelligent Germans that, if not in the reign of WILLIAM, at farthest in the reign of his son, the new German Empire may suffer disruption through the same Papal agency which proved fatal to the first.

THE British Parliament assembles to-day, and to-night's cable dispatches will probably bring us authentic information concerning the alleged determination of the English government to withdraw from the Geneva arbitration unless the case of the United States is reformed. In many respects the present session of Parliament will be one of the most important ever held. In addition to the Ballot bill, the Scotch Education measure, the liquor licensing question and other important subjects that call for immediate legislation, Ireland is expecting which there is likely to be a wide difference of opinion even among the liberals themselves, the conservatives, under the lead of DISRAELI and Earl DERBY, appear to have determined to fight the GLADSTONE party on almost every measure to be brought forward. Nor is there any doubt that while Mr. GLADSTONE has tried the temper of his own followers to a considerable extent, he has also afforded the opposition a series of opportunities of which it will be strange indeed if they fail to take advantage. The *Times*, too, has recently exhibited signs of rebellion against a continuance of his policy, and even the *Spectator*—one of the stanchest liberal organs in the country—has shown a disposition to break away from its allegiance, charging that the administration had been parsimonious in its economy, and unjust with respect to individuals, in dismissing large numbers of laborers, clerks and other persons holding offices under government, some in positions of high trust, who have been cajoled or intimidated into the surrender of their offices. Considerable capital has also been made out of Mr. GLADSTONE's recent absurd and ridiculous order suppressing certain satirical allusions to himself in a pantomime performed at one of the minor London theatres, besides which there are a dozen other matters on which not a little dissatisfaction exists among the members of his own party. How most of these questions it is likely that a strict party vote would result in a declaration of confidence in the government, but it is nevertheless clear that Mr. GLADSTONE has a most difficult task to perform in reconciling the conflicting views and opinions of his supporters, and holding the Opposition in check. In one word, England would appear to be on the verge of a great political crisis, which only the most careful and sagacious management will be competent to avert.

THE Palace Car system is anything but objectionable to passengers who prefer to pay an extra sum for extra accommodations; but the danger is that, unless limited and kept within the competitive line, they will be charged into an outrageous extortion. The subject, therefore, properly comes within the scope of reform in our State Legislature, though no man can tell what they are "going to do about it."

So says the New York *Herald*. The railroad whose managers will first recognize and correct the abuses growing out of the Palace Car Monopoly will earn the thanks of the traveling public, and secure increased business as a consequence. It cannot be disputed, for it is a grievous fact, that persons who have no reasonable cause for taking sleeping cars, or for any cause do not take them, have to submit to shabby treatment. Such passengers have come to be looked upon as second class and treated accordingly. We take the liberty to call the attention of the managers of the Pennsylvania Central to the subject as one eminently worthy of it.

THE latest piece of sarcasm is the remark of Col. QUAY, that Gray's election is "generally attributed to the unwavering, zealous and enthusiastic support by Col. Forney and his *Press*."

ENGLAND AND THE TREATY OF WASHINGTON.

While it is not to be disguised that there is a growing opposition to the Washington treaty in England, arising out of an impression, carefully fostered by such papers as the *Standard*, the *Saturday Review*, and other chronically Tory journals, that the United States intends to shift all the consequences of the debt and of the rebellion upon the shoulders of Great Britain, the report that Chief Justice COCKBURN has officially notified the Cabinet that England must recede from the treaty at once, leaving the United States to decide between a new treaty or war, is to be received with great caution. Parliament assembles to-morrow, so that we shall not have long to wait to ascertain the truth or falsity of the report, since the matter will of course receive due consideration in the address of the Queen to that body. England has, however, so many important home questions which press for immediate attention, and the pacific character of her relations with Germany and Russia is maintained by so slender a thread, that it seems very doubtful whether her discovery of the fact that the United States government has not relinquished its claim to general damages for injury done to American commerce by British cruisers, will make her jump out of the frying pan into the fire by practically declaring war against this country. BISMARCK makes no secret of his dislike to England, and it is almost certain that war between that country and the United States would be taken advantage of by that far-sighted statesman, besides very probably producing an offensive and defensive alliance between the United States and Russia. That there is a good deal of uneasiness and illnature among various politicians of Great Britain is as evident as that there are some people in our own country who, out of simple hatred to England would be glad to keep this *Alabama* sore indefinitely open. Chief Justice COCKBURN, however, is said to be a fair, honorable, right-minded man, and is not likely to be guilty of the action attributed to him. As a mere matter of policy, moreover, it would be far better for England to pay the Alabama claims a dozen times over than to recede from the treaty in this perfidious manner, under an apprehension that the Geneva Conference will decide adversely to her. On both sides the case has been made up, and all that the parties to the suit have to do is to patiently await the decision of the Court; and we are loth to believe that it will be otherwise.

THE somewhat critical nature of our relations with Spain a short time ago, very naturally gave rise to a comparison of the naval resources of the two powers on the part of the press, in the course of which great stress was laid upon the powerful ironclads said to be possessed by that country, and grave apprehensions were expressed by some of our journals, that in the event of war the Spanish fleet now in American waters would be able to drive our own navy into port, blockade it there, and destroy our coast and navy yards almost at will. While there is little probability that the United States will come to hostilities with Spain, it appears that the facts of the case do not at all warrant the impression which has obtained respecting the strength of the Spanish iron-clad fleet. The *Army and Navy Journal*, a standing authority on all such matters, after showing that in the event of war the whole Spanish fleet would be required for the defence of the Cuban sea coast, gives the composition of the fleet itself, from which it seems that there are but three Spanish ironclads in Cuban waters, two of which were constructed before the war, unseaworthy, and all of which have the great defect that their gun deck is only shielded by an iron veneer not an inch thick. In addition to these iron-armored vessels there are three others at home in Spain, two of which may be left out of the list altogether, having proved so faulty as to be almost unseaworthy. Of wooden vessels of war in American waters there are but three respectable armed frigates, the remaining ships of the fleet being of a quite inferior character. It is therefore pretty evident that the danger in which the United States would stand from offensive operations by Spanish ships of war, has been considerably overrated, and that the most timid persons have little real occasion for disquietude or alarm.

SOME of the sessions of the Illinois lawgivers have been a good deal more widely known for buncombe, than for sober, practical work. The present Legislature, however, has to a considerable extent redeemed the reputation of that body in this regard; several of the laws which it has within a recent period passed being marked by unusual comprehension of the needs of society, and a desire for its welfare. Latest among these common sense measures is a bill to regulate the practice of medicine and surgery, which makes it unlawful for any person to practice medicine or surgery in any of their departments who has not graduated at some medical college, or who cannot produce a certificate of qualification from some State, county, city or district medical society, composed of not less than six members, and who cannot produce a certificate of good character from some court of record in the United States. The same bill provides that all prescriptions shall be written in the English language; prescribes the qualifications for persons who shall be allowed to dispense medicines; and requires all proprietors of patent medicines, before exposing them for sale, to file in the office of the County Clerk a statement of the ingredients of which they are composed. Considering the immense amount of mischief which almost every day arises from the ignorance and mistakes of irregular or careless practitioners, the bill is of great importance, and some of its provisions might with considerable public profit and advantage be copied for adoption in not a few of the older and more Eastern States.

A BILL to amend the existing law in relation to libel and slander has been introduced into the Missouri Legislature, providing that in actions for libel or slander the defendant may in his answer allege both the truth of the matter charged as defamatory, and any mitigating circumstances admissible in evidence, to reduce the amount of damages; and whether he prove the justification or not, he may give in evidence the mitigating circumstances. The bill also permits the defendant to give proof of intention, and unless the plaintiff is able to prove malice in fact, he can recover nothing but the actual damage which he has specially alleged in his petition and proved. In every action for an alleged libel published in any newspaper or other periodical, the defendant may also plead in mitigation a published withdrawal or correction of it, proof of which shall estop the plaintiff from recovering anything beyond the actual damages specially alleged in his petition, and which shall be proved to